

A PORTRAIT OF POPULATION ORISSA

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CENSUS OF INDIA, 1971

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PREFACE

It is customary to bring out Census Reports and various compilations of statistical tables at the end of every census. In bulk and content they are quite heavy. They have to be, as long as they do justice to the great responsibility cast on census and cater for the multifarious demands made on them by the governments, scholars and research workers among other data users. But at the same time it will not do to forget the common man. The census data are of great value to him. If census deals with the live man and helps tackle various human problems, it is only natural that the people understand and appreciate the census and are served with the basic demographic data they would be needing ever so often.

The need for a popular version of the Census Report had been suggested by late Shri Govind Ballabh Pant, the former Home Minister in his address to the census authorities on the eve of 1961 Census. The same feeling and wish were echoed in shape of a clear directive by Shri Y. V. Chavan, the then Home Minister in his inaugural address on the occasion of the conference of the Directors of Census in May, 1969. The accent was

on the manner of presentation which will readily attract the lay reader and hold his interest: it should be both educative and interesting.

With this end in view, the present venture was taken in hand under the able guidance of Shri A. Chandra Sekhar, Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India. He had not merely laid out the frame-work for the book, but had also worked out the guidelines for drafting each chapter.

Demography is now a developed science and Indian census has carved for itself a distinct niche in the international sphere. The census concepts, the manner of presentation of data and their interpretation have to conform to international standards. To present the complex problems of population shorn of their technicality and sophistication in a manner which will readily catch the imagination of the lay reader is no easy task.

Despite these limitations we have tried our hand at this unique exercise which is the first-ever attempt in this direction in the history of Indian census. As the chapter-headings will show we have tried to cover certain basic characteristics with a view to giving the common reader a comprehensive picture of our population of 1971. We have tried to avoid complications or deeper probes into demographic problems. Here the object is

to put across the broad features of census concepts and results in as simple a manner as we could make it. The potential reader who has been kept in mind is a college student. The choice of material and the manner of presentation have been subjected to a simple test : will he enjoy reading this book ? Will he gain anything by it ? Will it make him better equipped as a citizen to understand and appreciate the common problems facing mankind, problems that have their root in the rapid growth of population ? If this book succeeds in fulfilling these objectives even partially the author will feel amply rewarded.

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April 13, 1973

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I shall be failing in my duty if I do not place on record my feeling of gratitude to Shri S. P. Mishra, Superintendent, Orissa Government Press, his deputies Shri N. Mohapatra and Shri B. Satpathy and Assistant Superintendent Shri D. Satpathy and the press staff for all the personal interest and care they took to bring out this publication in time.

Cuttack

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April 13, 1973

of

ORISSA



Source: on the basis of the results of the Census of Energy Expenditures. Derived from the line map prepared by the Survey of Urban and Suburban Areas, 1950. The line map shows the boundaries of the urban areas in 1950. The line map shows the boundaries of the urban areas in 1950. The line map shows the boundaries of the urban areas in 1950.

INTRODUCTION

What is Census ?

IF SOMEONE asked you what is Census, promptly you would reply, why, it is just a counting of heads. And, you will be right, but only partly. Because census is no doubt a counting of persons, yet at the same time it is very much more than that. I shall explain how. But before I do so let me tell you a story.

In the days of yore there lived a king. He took it into his head that he must have a census of stars. He put it to his learned

courtiers. This was an impossible task. The courtiers pleaded their inability. The king was enraged: what use maintaining these useless lot of hangers-on if they could not fulfil a simple wish of his ! He was about to dismiss the court when Gopal, the court jester came forward and volunteered to carry out the project. He would take 30 nights for the count, but no one would disturb him during this period. His prayer was granted.

Days rolled on. At last the appointed day arrived. The court was packed to capacity. Gopal, the jester was seen entering the court dragging along a cow by its tether.

"What is all this nonsense ? Are you ready with the result ?" thundered the king.

"Yes, Your Majesty ! For 30 nights I did the counting without batting an eyelid. For each star I counted, I put aside one fur in the coat of this cow. Thus I continued night after night till the stars were exhausted. I had come up to this point in the tail of the animal when there were no more stars in the sky to be counted. I cut off the tail exactly at that point and put a tag which your Majesty may be pleased to see."

"Lest anybody should doubt the accuracy of the count", continued Gopal, "I have brought this live record."

The king was happy because he thought he got the wonderful solution to his problem. But none in the king's court or in the kingdom for that matter was any the wiser so far as the census of stars was concerned. They remained as ignorant of the mystery of stars as ever.

Even going a step further if I told you that there are 22 million persons in our state or for that matter 548 million souls in India, will it mean anything to you ? Will it be any improvement over the court jester's live record of the animal with the severed tail ? No, it will be only begging the question.

But if you ponder over this number which I just gave you, a host of questions will crop up in your mind. You will find yourself asking : if we are 22 million in our state, how many are men and how many women ? How many are in villages and towns and how are we distributed among the districts, tahsils and thanas ? How many of us know how to read and write ? What languages do we speak ? What are we doing by way of earning our livelihood, how many are just sitting idle depending on others ? These and several such questions will assail your mind.

You might recall that way back in March, 1971, a gentleman (or was it a young lady ?) had called at your house and asked similar questions concerning yourself and other members of your family, not forgetting that new-born child or the grand old grand-pa or grand-ma. To refresh your memory I would refer you to the questionnaire reproduced at the end of this book. Remember that these details were collected for each one of the 22 million people of our state and simultaneously for each one of 548 million of our country. Each slip completed made a mini-biography of each individual. You can arrange or re-arrange these pieces in order to get a whole picture of your family or of the village or town you live in. If you repeat the process and move further upward you will get similar picture of your thana, tahsil, district, state and finally of the country. You will get a statistical portrait of the nation and of each of its parts.

This in a nutshell is population census. Counting of all persons in each area and collecting certain basic characteristics of each person such as age, sex, marital status, religion, mother-tongue, literacy, economic activity, etc., are its main objects.

The census of population is defined in the United Nations document as "the total

process of collecting, compiling and publishing demographic, economic and social data pertaining at a specified time or times to all persons in a country or delimited territory."

You might find all this rather tough to start with. It has to be, because a study of population deals with every social and economic man and with certain essential matters concerning life itself.

There is a saying in Oriya: if you are given a plate of hot porridge do not plunge your fingers into it straightway, you will only burn your fingers. Tackle it from the fringes. We will similarly start from the fringes and gradually reach out to the core.

Utility of Census Data

'Of what use are these statistical details', you might ask, 'what purpose do they serve?'

You have not to look far for an answer. It is all around you and part of your existence. Unless, for instance, you have data on school-going children how will you decide how many or where to put up schools? Similar is the case with medical care, water supply, housing and other basic needs of life. Gutting of houses by fire accidents, as you know, is a common experience in our countryside, but

what a dreadful calamity it is ! Replacing straw thatching by tiles is the crying need. If you were to draw up a scheme to tackle this problem, you will get all the material from the census report on Housing. Apart from the particulars on the type of structure, and the material of wall and roof of houses, the census houselist will give you an idea about how crowded are the houses. These data will be invaluable for any scheme of improved housing, slum clearance and sanitation.

You may be confronted with more intricate problems. If death rate in our country is going down and consequently the net population is on the increase what is its impact on the agricultural land ? Have counterbalancing factors like industrialisation and urbanisation set in to draw away people from land as has happened in the western countries ? How is the number of our active age group related to the younger and older age groups ? Data on pressure on land or on the distribution of working class people by sex and age groups and occupation will enable Governments to plan for the land reforms or utilisation of man power in the best manner possible. No plan can fulfil the basic objective which is the welfare of the people, unless it is based on a study of population. It is, therefore, said that census holds the key

to planned development. As you go through the chapters in this book you will find that not merely for planners or scholars or Governments, but also for commercial, industrial, non-official and political organisations down to the common man the census data are indispensable.

History of Indian Census

The history of Indian Census is indeed a fascinating one. It has a tradition going back to the days of antiquity. More than 2,000 years ago, Arthasastra of Kautilya prescribed the collection of population statistics as a measure of state policy for the purpose of taxation. The edicts of Asoka in the third century B. C. referred to census as a permanent institution. The Indian princes are also known to have undertaken what is known as 'khana sumari', a rough census of population. These objectives of the ancient censuses became unpopular with the people and in the mediaeval period censuses were almost given up. But as the need for reliable data on population was felt by the modern welfare states for such purposes as demarcation of electoral areas, scientific developmental planning and administration of educational, health and other social welfare programmes and so on, the data on population started to be collected purely for statistical

purposes. Canada and the Scandinavian countries were among the earliest to have attempted a proper population census. U.S.A. had regular decennial population counts from 1790 and U.K. took its first regular census in 1801. In India too the East India Company administration made estimates of population of some of its local possessions even from the middle of the 17th century.

The first Imperial Census of India under the British rule was ordered in 1871. The enumeration was spread over 5 years from 1867 to 1872, different parts of the country being enumerated in different years. It was not synchronous, nor did it cover the entire country. Only the census schedule was uniform. This, however, laid the foundation for the modern decennial censuses in the country. The next census was taken in 1881 throughout the country. This was a synchronous and comprehensive operation. Since that year Indian census has taken place with unerring regularity once in every 10 years. Even the World War II did not hold up the Census of 1941. With 1971, Census was completed 100 years of modern census-taking in India. There is hardly any other country which has had an unbroken chain of regular decennial modern census over the last 100 years.

It would interest you to know that the earlier censuses right up to 1931 were one-day affairs and the enumeration was done nocturnally though a record of the households was prepared a few days in advance. The idea was evidently to find the people in their homes; but special arrangements were made to enumerate persons in camps, cantonments, jails, hospitals and those who were houseless. One is prone in the light of subsequent experience to take these censuses in good-humoured indulgence in the same manner as did the then Lt.-Governor Sir George Campbell (1871-74). After seeing the results the Lt. Governor remarked, "We began by doubting whether the returns should be worth the paper on which they were written and ended by thinking them wonderfully good and trustworthy."

Much water has flown since then. Indian Census has come a long way working with a new vision and recasting its scope and objective to answer new requirements.

Mechanics of Census-taking

Census, as you already know, is taken once in 10 years. A day or hour is fixed for census-taking and all census information must relate to that time. Persons born or

dead after the census reference date are not taken into account. For 1971 Census, the sunrise of April 1, 1971 was the reference point of time. The object of the census-taking is to take a snapshot picture of the population of a given area at that particular point of time. It must be simultaneous in all the States and Union Territories of our country. As you would appreciate, conducting an enumeration of all the people living in every nook and corner of our country at a fixed hour can hardly be possible. Therefore, a period of about three weeks preceding the reference date is fixed as the period of enumeration. For 1971 Census, the period from 10th March to 1st April was fixed for the purpose. In order to bring the picture up-to-date as at sunrise of the reference date, the census enumerators quickly went round their jurisdictions on a revisit for which 3 extra days after the reference date were allowed. During this revisit the census-taker enumerated any fresh arrival in his jurisdiction and also took into account any fresh births that had taken place in any of the households after his previous visit but before the sunrise of the reference date. He cancelled the census schedules for persons who had died since his last visit to a household but prior to the sunrise of the reference date. Births, deaths or arrival of visitors

that had taken place after the sunrise of the reference date were not taken into account by him.

As you have just seen the counting of persons is confined to the period of enumeration. Now you might ask, 'where does the enumerator catch the persons to be enumerated ? Is it in the *hats*, fairs, schools, colleges, offices or paddy fields that he catches the persons ?' That would have simplified the work of the enumerator, but the result would have been disastrous. The first and the foremost principle, therefore, for census-taking is that all persons are enumerated at their respective households and not at the place of work or congregation. Then again a person normally residing at a place during the enumeration period is eligible for enumeration at that place. Even if he has stayed for a part of the enumeration period at his normal place of residence, he should be enumerated there. If, on the other hand, he has been away throughout the enumeration period he is not considered eligible for enumeration here. He will be enumerated wherever he is actually found during this period. As a precaution against double count, such persons are cautioned that they should not get themselves enumerated again in case they move out from this place during the period of enumeration.

You will thus see that the scope of double count or of missing anybody is reduced to the minimum.

You have been told that the persons are enumerated at their respective households. Now households are of three kinds, viz., normal households, institutional households and houseless households. By the first kind of household we mean a group of persons who commonly live together and take their meals from a common kitchen. Boarding houses, hotels, jails, hospitals, etc., are known as institutional households. All who have no homes such as, beggars, vagrants, pavement-dwellers, etc., constitute houseless population. Enumeration of the first two categories of households is done during the enumeration period and that of the houseless households on the night of the last day of the enumeration period, which in 1971 Census was the night of the 31st March, 1971. It would follow from the above that everybody must be traced to any one of the first two categories of the households, leaving aside the houseless persons who are counted, as explained above, by a special arrangement.

How Census is Organised

For this the first thing necessary is to locate every village and town and every human habitation, be it a regular village or a

cluster of houses in a remote forest or hilly terrain and then to locate every house in each such habitation or settlement.

So the first stage of preparation for the census count is a simple housing census. A complete and exhaustive list of all towns, villages and human settlements is first made out and plotted on thana or tahsil maps. Similarly, town maps are prepared showing the boundary of wards. Then the villages and the town wards are formed into small blocks each covering on an average 150 households in rural areas and 120 households in town areas. An enumerator is placed in charge of each such block. He goes round his area, prepares the map of the village or the town block allotted to him and marks out in it the location and the type of every house after close verification on the ground. He then allots each house a running serial number and paints the number on the door of the house. This process is called house-numbering. This is checked and rechecked with a view to ensuring that no house, however big or small, is left out of count. Now having in this manner prepared an exhaustive list of houses in the area allotted to him, the enumerator then collects various data relating to each house, like type of structure, material of wall and roof, purpose for which each house is used, whether the household lives in owned or

rented house, the name of the head of the household and the number of members of each household, in a schedule known as Houselist. Besides, all the establishments are specially listed and certain particulars of each establishment collected and filled in another schedule called the Establishment Schedule.

This process of house-numbering and houselisting is completed well before the actual census enumeration. For 1971 Census in our state this operation was completed by March, 1970, that is, about a year before the final census count. The number of houses and rough estimates of the number of persons residing in the households thrown up by this operation provide an excellent frame for the main operation to follow. The size and jurisdiction of the enumerator-block for the final count is carved out keeping to a general yardstick of 750 persons in rural areas and 600 persons in urban areas which is considered feasible for an enumerator to cover during the 21-day period of enumeration. During the intervening period between the completion of house-numbering and listing, and the final count, preparations for the latter operation are intensified. These constitute printing of a large number of forms and schedules, selection and recruitment of thousands of enumerators and supervisors and an intensive

course of training of the enumeration agency so as to enable them to master the instructions and the technique involved in eliciting truthful replies to the questions and recording the same in the census schedules.

I would not take you here into the details of the various processes. Such among you as may be curious will get them from our General Report. It was a colossal task by any standard. How massive was the organisation you can imagine for yourself from the following few facts so far as the last census of 1971 in our state is concerned.

The number of enumerator blocks into which the state was divided for census-taking was 57,969. There were altogether 33,934 enumerators and 6,820 supervisors including reserve. The training was imparted to groups of enumeration staff at more than a thousand centres, each centre running a series of 10 classes extending over a period of 3 months. As for the number of forms, and schedules printed and supplied, it was legion.

You might be curious to know how this huge juggernaut moved from stage to stage. There was a well-knit organisation carefully built up from bottom to top in the shape of what you may call a pyramid. The base was provided by the army of enumerators. Above

them were supervisors at the rate of 1 for 5 enumerators and above the supervisors the charge officer. Tahsildar, in our state, was the charge officer, the tahsil constituting what we call a census charge. For urban areas, the executive officer of the municipality or N. A. C. as the case might be, was the charge officer. Above the charge officer was the District Census Officer. At the state level the Director, Census Operations exercised control, supervision, co-ordination and guidance over the work of all census officials and remained responsible to the Registrar General, India who was at the apex of the pyramid.

While the normal state administrative machinery in the district was utilised at supervisory levels the real brunt was borne by the enumerators. The school teacher is a respected individual in the village and he commands the confidence of the people and can thus succeed in eliciting correct response to the census questions. He was, therefore, the obvious choice to work as enumerator. As in previous censuses, so also in 1971 the local teachers formed the bulk of enumeration staff.

The duties and responsibilities were laid down at each level and the instructions to

each class of functionaries were precise and clear-cut. Each step was perfected before the next was taken. Brick on brick the whole structure was built up and brought to a pinnacle of efficiency.

It was a labour of love for the enumerators and supervisors. The pittance of Rs. 40 paid to each enumerator or supervisor was no remuneration considering the tremendous work turned out by him. Our country can ill afford to have a fully paid enumeration staff. Even the small honorarium that is paid costs the country's exchequer over Rs. 4 crores. This works out to only about 7 paise per head of population, perhaps the lowest in the world. Talking of our state alone, the bills on this account including some honorarium paid to District Census Officers and other higher supervisory officials was in the order of Rs. 16.9 lakhs.

This is only one side of the picture. On the other side are the people who are to be enumerated. The enumerator and the enumerated have an equal part to play. It is, therefore, said that it takes two to make census; the enumerator and the enumerated. The basic principle of any census-taking is that the enumerator must record the answer as given by the person faithfully without in

the least trying to impute his own interpretation or the meaning into it. So the whole thing depends on how truthfully the respondent gives out the particulars about himself or the members of his family.

The Census Law

The census law guarantees that the information given by any person in reply to the questions of the enumerator will be absolutely confidential and cannot be used against him or any other person in any court of law. Moreover, the Census Act clothes census officials with extraordinary powers to enforce co-operation from public, local bodies and government or non-government organisations. This law also requires all citizens to answer questions truthfully and prescribes penalties for violation of the provisions. While the law provides for all this and more, it is on an increasing realisation on the part of the common man of his role and responsibility in this national venture that the success of a census eventually depends. It is most heartening to recall that at no point of this formidable operation in 1971 was there any occasion for invoking the provisions of the law. It is truly claimed that the Indian census is the product of one of the greatest co-operative endeavours. The success of 1971

Census is a tribute to the willing co-operation of the citizens on the one hand and to the selfless and dedicated work put in by a vast army of honorary workers on the other.

Announcing the First Results

The census enumeration of 1971 was completed in our state as in the rest of the country strictly according to schedule, that is, by the 3rd April, 1971. It was our anxiety to place before people the first results of the count as quickly as possible even in their provisional form. Certain basic data compiled by every enumerator was relayed from stage to stage till they were consolidated at the district level and transmitted to the State Director and Census Commissioner by the quickest means possible. You will be surprised to learn that the provisional consolidated figures for all-India and the individual states down to district level were released within less than two weeks of the completion of enumeration. I wonder if you came across our publication 'Paper I of 1971—Provisional Population Totals' of Orissa which was brought out in April, 1971. It gave the tentative population figures of our state by districts and cities, its distribution by sex, the rural-urban break-up, the literacy rate, broad distribution of workers as agricultural and non-agricultural.

These were crude totals hastily struck from the Enumerators' Abstracts as they were, without check or verification. One was naturally curious to know how these would compare with the final figures. The state's total population as now finally computed after year-long processing of individual slips has very nearly confirmed it adding to the total number a mere 9,788 persons which makes a negligible 0.04 per cent of the total, a further tribute to the careful and earnest work put in by the enumeration staff.

This was followed by another stage of hectic activity, this time not in the field, but in the regional offices set up in the state. The census schedules were collected at these offices and were carefully checked, edited and processed. For the first time in census history, a considerable part of data of 1971 is being processed on electronic computers, the rest following the traditional manual sorting. A tabulation programme was laid down made up of as many as 78 Tables relating to different aspects of population. These together with analytical reports will be published in a series of publications. The publication programme is given at the end of this book. If you want to have more details about any aspect you may pick out the particular volume from this list.

In this small book is presented only a broad picture of certain basic characteristics of the population—population size, its distribution, growth rate, rural-urban composition, sex ratio, literacy, mother-tongue, religion, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes and the broad activity of the population. While dealing with the facts as they are revealed in 1971, we have looked backwards and forwards and tried to understand how we in our state stand in relation to other states of our country and sometimes to other countries in the world.

Here then is a cameo of ourselves as seen in the mirror held by census. Whether one likes what one sees in it or not, it is there. If each one of us as good citizen girds up his loins and proceeds to improve our lot the 'portrait' would perhaps get a face-lift and might look prettier in 1981.

2

HOW MANY ARE WE ? HOW ARE WE DISTRIBUTED AND BY HOW MUCH ARE OUR NUMBERS GROWING ?

YOU KNOW by now something of census-taking in this country and why and how we go about counting men once in 10 years. According to our last population count in 1971 there are in round figures 22 million people in our state. For the country as a whole, the number is 548 million. Our state's population is, therefore, 4 per cent of the total population of India. You might be curious to know what the population of the world would

be like. It is 3,706 million around this period or about 7 times the population of India.

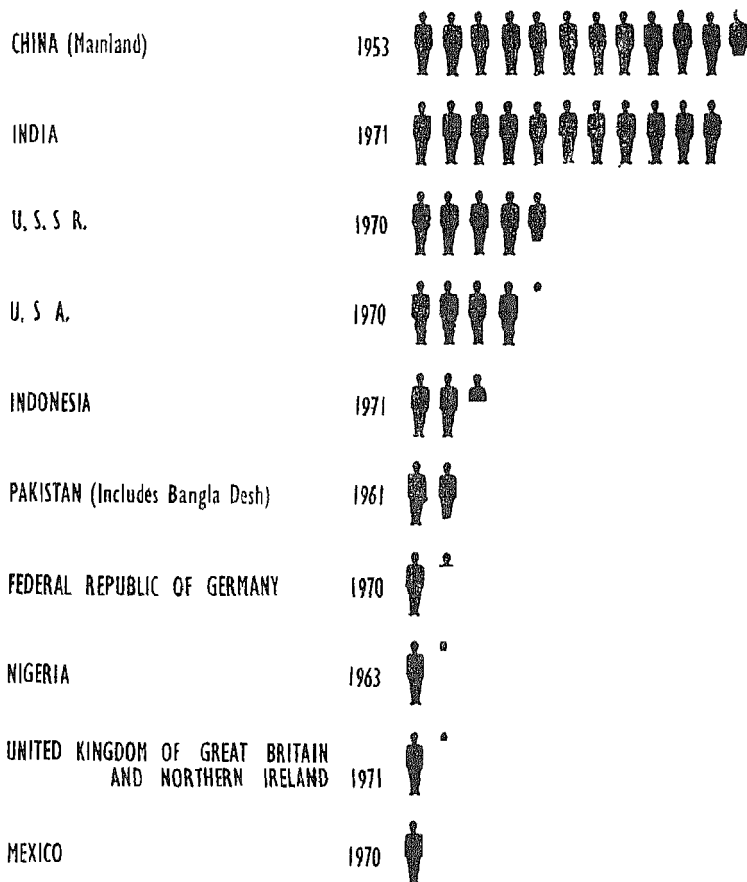
Among every 7 persons in the world, therefore, there is one from our country. Similarly, out of every 25 Indians, there is one from Orissa.

Though a small state of the Union, Orissa is more populous than many countries of the world. To cite examples of a few important countries, there are Yugoslavia (20.5 m), Czechoslovakia (14.4 m), Sweden (3.1 m), Israel (2.2 m) and Burma (16.8 m) whose population is smaller than that of Orissa. The population of Australia and New Zealand (15.6 m) is about two-third that of Orissa. Countries whose population is about at par with Orissa are Canada (21.6 m), Argentina (23.4 m), Iran (25.8 m) and Romania (19.1 m). Orissa's population is about half the population of England and Wales (48.6 m), around one-fourth that of Brazil (93.2 m) and about a fifth that of Indonesia (118.3 m).

Comparison with Other States of India

Let us now see how our state stands in comparison with other states of India. See Table 2.1 in which the states are arranged according to their population. According to

COMPARATIVE SIZE OF POPULATION OF COUNTRIES



(Each figure represents 50,000,000 Population)

1971 Census, Orissa occupies the eleventh position. In 1961, Orissa with 17.5 million people ranked twelfth among the states. The state of Punjab occupied the tenth position. But as you know, the Punjab during the decade was split into the component states—Punjab and Haryana and the Union Territory of Chandigarh. In 1971, therefore, Orissa moved up to the eleventh position.

Table 2.1

Rank in 1971	Country/State	Population (1971)
1	2	3
	INDIA	547,949,809
1	Uttar Pradesh	88,341,144
2	Bihar	56,353,369
3	Maharashtra	50,412,235
4	West Bengal	44,312,011
5	Andhra Pradesh	43,502,708
6	Madhya Pradesh	41,654,119
7	Tamil Nadu	41,199,168
8	Mysore	29,299,014
9	Gujarat	26,697,475
10	Rajasthan	25,765,806

Table 2.1—*Concl'd.*

Rank in 1971	Country/State	Population (1971)
1	2	3
11	Orissa ..	21,944,615
12	Kerala ..	21,347,375
13	Assam *	14,957,542
14	Punjab ..	13,551,060
15	Haryana ..	10,036,808
16	Jammu and Kashmir ..	4,616,632
17	Himachal Pradesh ..	3,460,434
18	Tripura ..	1,556,342
19	Manipur ..	1,072,753
20	Meghalaya ..	1,011,699
21	Nagaland ..	516,449

*Includes Mizo district which now forms the Union Territory of Mizoram.

You will notice that the population of our state is about a quarter that of Uttar Pradesh, the most populous state in India. Our neighbours like Bihar, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh are giants in population size and they occupy very high ranks in size of population according to 1971 Census. The population of West Bengal or Andhra Pradesh is about double that of

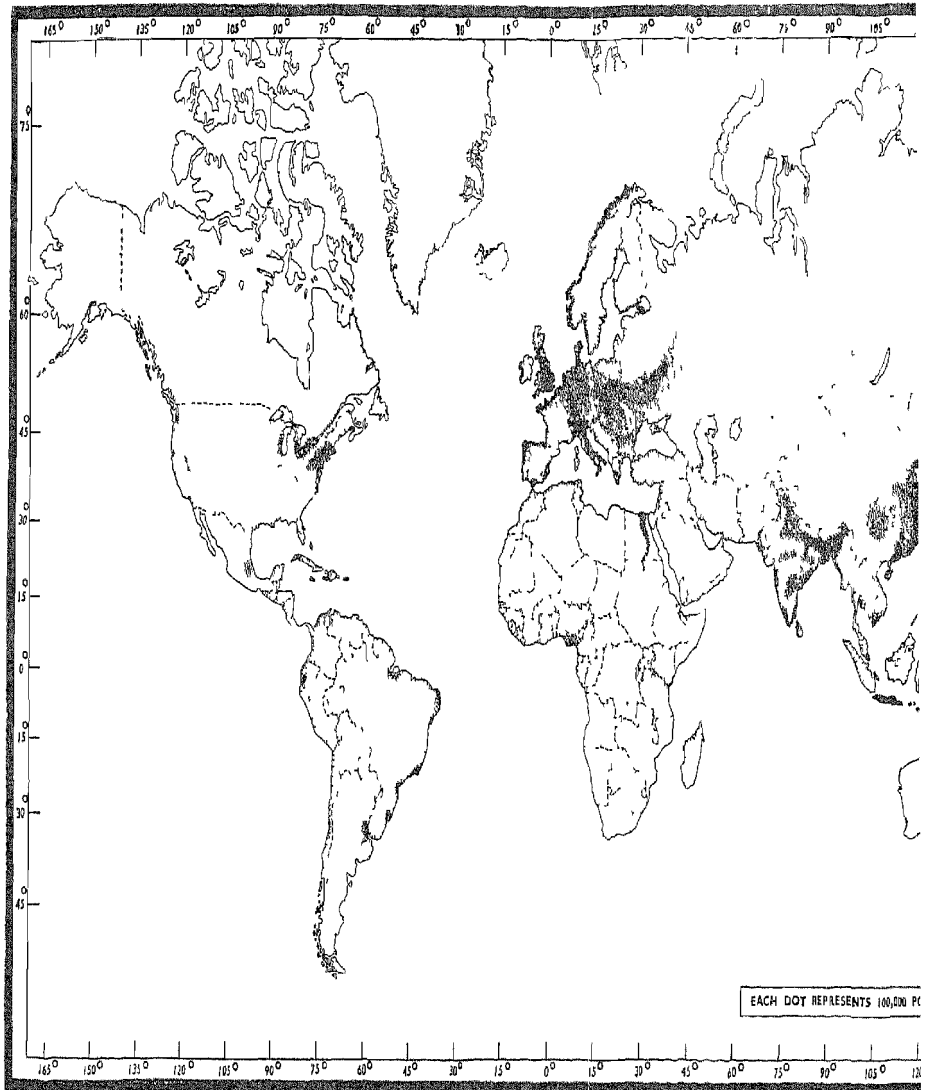
Orissa and Kerala's population is about at par. The population of Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh together is about a third of Orissa's population.

Distribution of Population—World Pattern

How are the people distributed over the earth's surface? We have said earlier that the present population of the world is 3·7 billion (a thousand millions make a billion). Here let us remember that the population of all the countries of the world has not been counted. There are a few countries in Asia and Africa where a census has not been taken in recent years and there are others where a total count has never been attempted. For these countries, population experts can only guess at the population. Another name for this systematic guess is 'estimation' of population. The population of the world is, therefore, not fully based on full count but partly on estimation.

A glance at the world population map on the facing page will help you to understand the simple geographic fact that people are not distributed evenly over the surface of the earth. In some parts of the world there are many people; in other parts there are relatively fewer people. If you look closely at this map you will notice that there are three great

DISTRIBUTION OF WORLD POPULATION



clusters of people. The most important of these clusters is in eastern and south-eastern Asia. Countries lying in the area include China, India, Japan and Indonesia. About one-half of the world's population live in this region. The second major cluster lies in Europe and U. S. S. R. Britain, France, Western Soviet Union and Germany are located in this region. About one-fourth of the world's population is covered by this cluster. The third cluster which is much smaller in size than the other two is located in Central and Eastern North America. It includes parts of U. S. A. and Canada. In all these three clusters live about 80 per cent of all the inhabitants of the earth. The remaining 20 per cent are thinly distributed over the rest of the globe.

You would notice an interesting feature : there are more people in the areas bordering the sea coast than in the interior. In other words, the nearer the coastal line, the greater is the concentration of population and the further inland you go, the emptier it is. Similarly, population number declines with altitude. It can be broadly generalized that population numbers concentrate in areas which offer good natural resources and do not present serious physical obstacles to human

settlement. Notwithstanding the search of man in recent decades for 'fresh woods and pastures new', it is a fact that for the purpose of settlement, man has always chosen the environment which is less hostile to him.

Distribution of Population in the Districts

This pattern, or what we may call the rules of population distribution, holds good more or less for any country. Coming to our own state it can be divided into two broad natural divisions, viz., coastal division and inland division. The coastal division covers the fertile alluvial deltaic tract which is a gift of the six big rivers flowing down to the sea. The districts of Cuttack, Balasore, Puri and Ganjam are included in this division. The inland division roughly comprises the rest of the districts which are partly covered by hills, forests and barren wastes. The coastal division with an area of 25.9 per cent of the state's total area has a population as high as 46.9 per cent of the population of the state. The inland division on the other hand containing 74.1 per cent of the state's area sustains only 53.1 per cent of its population. While the coastal division has more men than area, the inland division has more space but less inhabitants. See Table 2.2.

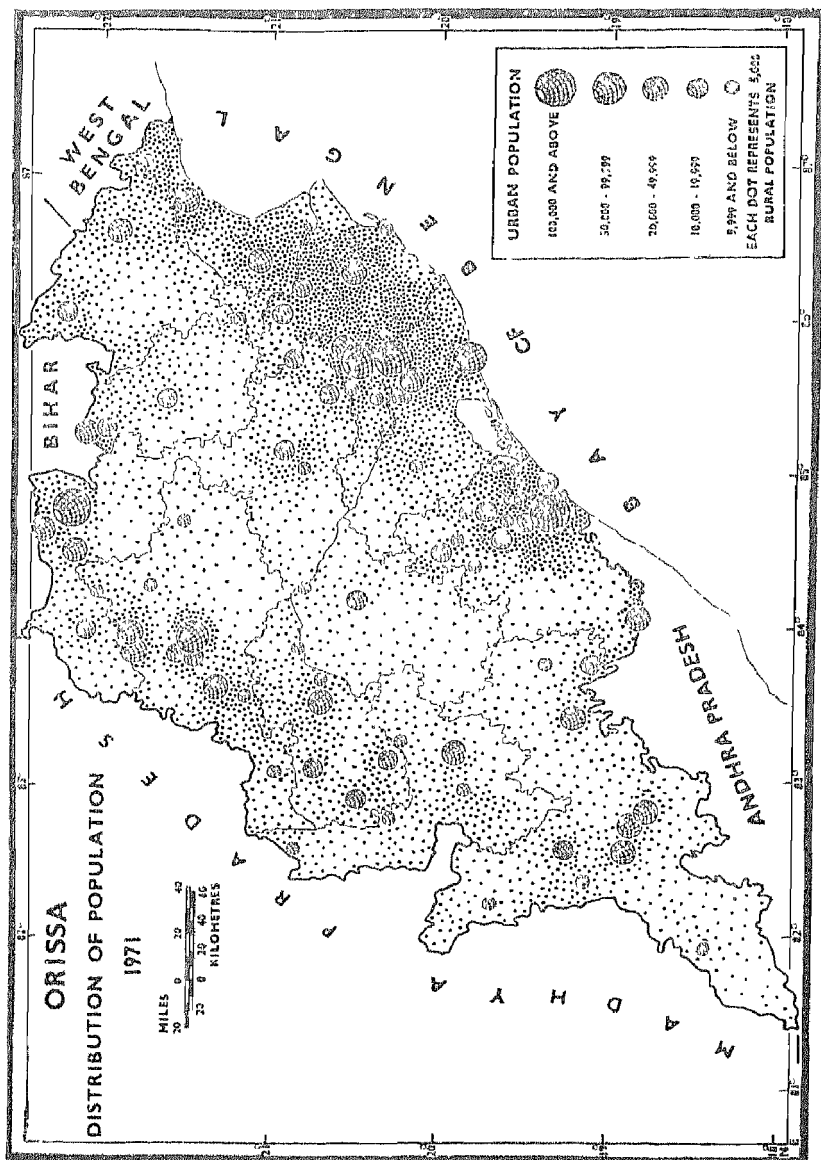
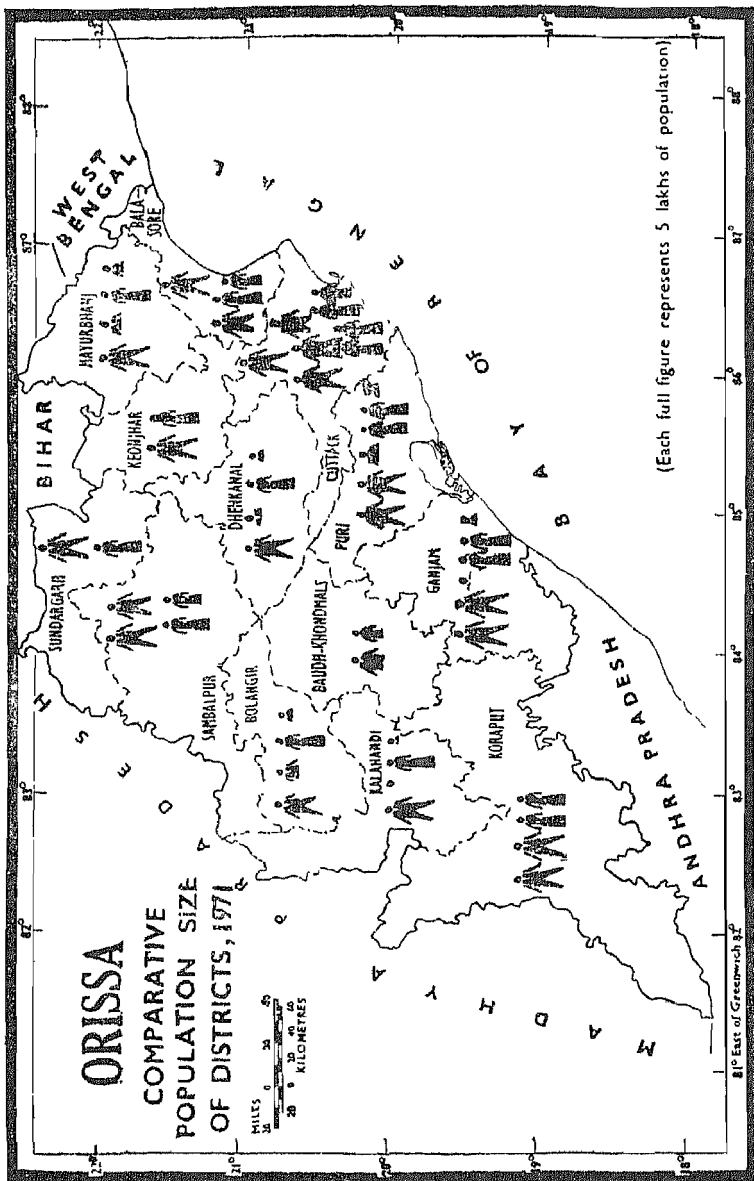


Table 2.2

Rank in 1971	Name of district	Population	Rank in 1961
1	2	3	4
1	Cuttack ..	3,827,678	1
2	Puri ..	2,340,859	3
3	Ganjam ..	2,293,808	2
4	Koraput ..	2,043,281	4
5	Sambalpur ..	1,844,898	5
6	Balasore ..	1,830,504	6
7	Mayurbhanj ..	1,434,200	7
8	Dhenkanal ..	1,293,914	9
9	Bolangir ..	1,263,657	8
10	Kalahandi ..	1,163,869	10
11	Sundargarh ..	1,030,758	11
12	Keonjhar ..	955,514	12
13	Baudh-Khondmals..	621,675	13

Cuttack is at the top of this list and Baudh-Khondmals at the bottom in both the censuses. In between are 11 other districts four of which have undergone change in their ranking



between 1961 and 1971. Between Puri and Ganjam, for instance, while Puri occupied the third rank in 1961, it has elevated itself to the second position in 1971 and Ganjam has gone down by one place. Similarly, Dhenkanal and Bolangir have also changed their ranks during the period. The first three populous districts are Cuttack, Puri and Ganjam, all in the coastal division. Similarly, the districts at the bottom of the table are Sundargarh, Keonjhar and Baudh-Khondmals which lie in the inland region.

Average Population of Districts in Orissa and Other States

The average population of a district in Orissa is 16.88 lakhs. This average is derived by the simple method of dividing the total population of the state by the number of districts. Table 2.3 shows the average population of districts in the states and the all-India average. The average for the country (15.98 lakhs) is near that of Orissa. A district in Bihar (33.15 lakhs) is about twice as populous as a district in Orissa. Bihar tops the list in the average population of districts and Nagaland is at the bottom. Orissa (16.88 lakhs) occupies the seventh position with Uttar Pradesh (16.36 lakhs) closely following. The

district average of the most populous state (Uttar Pradesh) is less than that of our state for the simple reason that the number of districts in Uttar Pradesh is 54 as against 13 in Orissa.

Table 2.3

Rank in 1971	Country/State	Average popula- tion size of a district
1	2	3
	INDIA	1,597,666
1	Bihar	3,314,904
2	Tamil Nadu	2,942,798
3	West Bengal	2,769,501
4	Kerala	2,134,738
5	Andhra Pradesh	2,071,558
6	Maharashtra	1,938,932
7	Orissa	1,688,047
8	Uttar Pradesh	1,635,947
9	Mysore	1,542,053
10	Assam *	1,495,754
11	Haryana	1,433,830
12	Gujarat	1,405,130

Table 2.3—*Concl'd.*

Rank in 1971	Country/State	Average popula- tion size of a district
1	2	3
13	Punjab ..	1,231,915
14	Rajasthan ..	990,993
15	Madhya Pradesh ..	968,700
16	Tripura ..	518,781
17	Meghalaya ..	505,850
18	Jammu and Kashmir ..	461,663
19	Himachal Pradesh ..	346,043
20	Manipur ..	214,551
21	Nagaland ..	172,150

*Includes Mizo district which now forms the Union Territory of Mizoram.

It may interest you to know how the districts of Orissa are located with regard to the state average. Table 2.4 will show that there are six districts in Orissa whose population is more than this average. The remaining seven districts lie below it. Only three districts lie within 20 per cent of this average. This shows that the population of districts in Orissa is almost equally balanced on either side of the average.

Table 2.4

Above the average (20 per cent +)	Above the average (within 20 per cent)	Average district population	Below the average (within 20 per cent)	Below the average (20 per cent —)
1	2	3	4	5
Cuttack (3,827,678)	Sambalpur (1,844,898)	1,688,047	Mayurbhanj (1,434,200)	Sundargarh (1,030,758)
Koraput (2,043,281)	Balasore (1,830,504)			Keonjhar (955,514)
Ganjam (2,293,808)				Dhenkanal (1,293,914)
Puri (2,340,859)				Baudh-Khondmals (621,675)
				Bolangir (1,263,657)
				Kalahandi (1,163,869)

Most Populous District

Of the 6 districts placed above the state average, which one do you think is the most populous ? Cuttack obviously. Not only in 1971 but all through the previous decades, Cuttack district has maintained the pride of place. Its population according to 1971 Census is 3.83 million. Twenty-four Parganas, a district in our neighbouring state of West Bengal is the most populous district in India. It has a population of 8.45 million, which is more than double the population of Cuttack district. Among our other immediate neighbours Darbhanga the most populous district in Bihar has a population of 5.23 million, while East Godavari, the most populous district of Andhra Pradesh has 3.09 million people and Raipur, the most populous district of Madhya Pradesh has 2.61 million. You will notice that Cuttack as the most populous district of Orissa is at par or better placed with its counterparts in Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh while it is far below Twenty-four Parganas of West Bengal or Darbhanga of Bihar.

Least Populous District

The least populous district of Orissa is Baudh-Khondmals which has a population of only 0.62 million. This is less than one-sixth

the population of Cuttack. Baudh-Khondmals, however, is more populous than the least populous district of India which is Lahul and Spiti in Himachal Pradesh inhabited by only 23,538 people. The corresponding districts for Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal are Adilabad (1.29 m), Datia (0.26 m), Dhanbad (1.47 m) and Darjeeling (0.78 m) respectively.

Ranking of Districts according to Area

Now let us look at the districts from the point of view of area. In Table 2.5 the districts of Orissa are arranged according to their rank in area. Koraput, as you will find, is the largest district and Balasore, the smallest. Mark Cuttack, the Number 1 district from point of view of population is fifth among districts in area.

Table 2.5

Rank in 1971	Name of district	Area in sq. kms.
1	2	3
1	Koraput	.. 27,020
2	Sambalpur	.. 17,570
3	Ganjam	.. 12,527

Table 2.5—Concl'd.

Rank in 1971	Name of district	Area in sq. kms.
1	2	3
4	Kalahandi	.. 11,835
5	Cuttack	.. 11,211
6	Baudh-Khondmals	.. 11,070
7	Dhenkanal	.. 10,826
8	Mayurbhanj	.. 10,412
9	Puri	.. 10,159
10	Sundargarh	.. 9,675
11	Bolangir	.. 8,903
12	Keonjhar	.. 8,240
13	Balasore	.. 6,394

Density of Population

What relation could there be between the area of a given region or territory and its population ? This takes us to the question of land-people ratio or, what is known in census parlance, as density of population.

A simple method of calculating density of population is to divide the total population of a given region by its total area. It is generally depicted by the number of persons inhabiting one square kilometre of area. Though this measure has its own limitations, it comes in handy for a broad understanding of the pressure of population.

Density of Orissa Compared to Other States

The density of population for our country as a whole as recorded at the 1971 Census is 178 persons per square kilometre. As against this the density figure of our state is 141. Among the states Kerala records the highest density at 549. This state has been a crowded region for decades. The state following next is West Bengal with a high density of 504. This could be traced among other reasons, to a large influx of displaced persons from Bangla Desh, Nepal and Tibet and migrants from other parts of the country particularly Bihar and Assam. States which keep company with Orissa on this score are Assam (150), Tripura (149) and Gujarat (136). Nagaland records the lowest density of 31 persons per square kilometre. See Table 2.6.

Table 2.6

Rank in 1971	Country/State	Density of population per square kilometre
1	2	3
† INDIA	..	178
1	Kerala	549
2	West Bengal	504
3	Bihar	324
4	Tamil Nadu	317
5	Uttar Pradesh	300
6	Punjab	269
7	Haryana	227
8	Maharashtra	164
9	Andhra Pradesh	157
10	Mysore	153
11	Assam*	150
12	Tripura	149
13	Orissa	141
14	Gujarat	136

Table 2.6—*Concl'd.*

Rank in 1971	Country/State	Density of population per square kilometre
1	2	3
15	Madhya Pradesh ..	94
16	Rajasthan ..	75
17	Himachal Pradesh ..	62
18	Manipur ..	48
19	Meghalaya ..	45
20	Nagaland ..	31
21	Jammu and Kashmir ..	N. A.

† Density of India worked out after excluding population and area figures of Jammu and Kashmir.

* Includes Mizo district which now forms the Union Territory of Mizoram.

N.A.=Not available

Density of Orissa Over Decades

Now let us see how the density of population in our state behaved during the past decades. See Table 2.7.

Table 2.7

Year	Density of population per square kilometre in Orissa
1	2
1901	66
1911	73
1921	72
1931	80
1941	88
1951	94
1961	113
1971	141

You will notice that except for 1921, the population density has been on the increase from decade to decade. You should also notice the accelerated rate of increase in density from 1951 onwards in contrast to its slow and tardy progress in the earlier decades. The density of the state has more than doubled itself during the last seven decades. We will revert to an analysis of the plausible reasons behind this phenomenon later when we deal with growth rate.

Density of Districts

Table 2.8 gives the density figures for the districts. The most populous district may not necessarily be the most densely populated one. But it is rather a coincidence that Cuttack the most populous district is also the most densely populated one and Baudh-Khondmals the least populous district has the lowest density. Both these districts along with eight others have maintained their respective ranks in both 1961 and 1971. Sundargarh which ranked eleventh in 1961 has moved up to the ninth place in 1971. Similarly, Sambalpur and Kalahandi which occupied the ninth and tenth positions respectively have gone down by one place each in 1971.

Table 2.8

Rank in 1971	District		Density of population per sq. km.		Rank in 1961
			1971	1961	
1	2		3	4	5
1	Cuttack	..	341	273	1
2	Balasore	..	286	221	2
3	Puri	..	230	184	3

Table 2.8—*Concl'd.*

Rank in 1971	District	Density of population per sq. km.		Rank in 1961
		1971	1961	
1	2	3	4	5
4	Ganjam ..	183	149	4
5	Bolangir ..	142	120	5
6	Mayurbhanj ..	138	116	6
7	Dhenkanal ..	120	95	7
8	Keonjhar ..	116	90	8
9	Sundargarh ..	107	78	11
10	Sambalpur ..	105	86	9
11	Kalahandi ..	98	80	10
12	Koraput ..	76	58	12
13	Baudh-Khondmals ..	56	46	13

On the basis of changing pattern between districts, the state can be divided into two broad density zones. One is the coastal tract comprising the districts of Cuttack, Balasore, Puri and Ganjam with a density range varying from 180 to about 350. The second zone which comprises the districts lying in the

inland tract can be again subdivided into two broad sub-regions—one consisting of the north-western districts of Bolangir, Mayurbhanj, Dhenkanal, Keonjhar, Sundargarh and Sambalpur and the other comprising the south-eastern districts of Kalahandi, Koraput and Baudh-Khondmals. The first sub-zone lies in the density range of 100—150 and the second in the lowest density range of 50—100 persons per square kilometre.

Differential in Density among Districts

Take a look at the density map of Orissa at the facing page which depicts the position clearly. The reason for the heavy concentration of population in the coastal districts is not far to seek. As already explained, this fertile deltaic region is ideally suited to agriculture. It has a high potential to sustain heavy density of population. The four districts, viz., Cuttack, Balasore, Puri and Ganjam, therefore, continue to be at the top of the density table for decades.

There are districts in the inland region which have been showing signs of a steady rise in density in the wake of industrial development. Sundargarh, for example, has added 29 persons to a square kilometre during the last decade while Keonjhar has improved

its density by 26 and Dhenkanal by 25. Though in districts like Koraput there has been a significant growth of population during this decade, the density is still low at 76 in 1971 obviously because of its sprawling area.

Districts like Kalahandi, Koraput and Baudh-Khondmals continue to be low down in the list for decades. The area has neither the natural advantage to sustain higher density of population nor are there industries and projects coming up to attract persons from outside.

Density of Population by Cultivable Area

Though it is the usual practice to present the density of population of a given territory by its geographical area, it may not reveal the realistic situation. The geographic area includes rivers, lakes, hills and forests which are not inhabited, nor are they strictly related to the economy of the people. Particularly in a country like ours where nearly 80 per cent of its population depend on agriculture, it would be worthwhile to see how the density based on geographical area alters when related to the total cultivable area. Table 2.9 gives the density of population in districts by their cultivable area *vis-a-vis* geographical area for facility of comparison.

Table 2.9

State/District	Cultivable area in sq. kms.	Density of popula- tion per sq. km. of cultivable area	Density of popula- tion per sq. km. of geogra- phical area
1	2	3	4
ORISSA	59,241.5	370	141
Sambalpur	6,530.6	283	105
Sundargarh	3,075.3	335	107
Keonjhar	2,313.5	413	116
Mayurbhanj	4,239.8	338	138
Balasore	4,560.9	401	286
Cuttack	6,801.0	563	341
Dhenkanal	3,574.5	362	120
Baudh-Khondmals	2,299.2	270	56
Bolangir	5,043.5	251	142
Kalahandi	4,984.0	234	98
Koraput	7,081.5	289	76
Ganjam	4,065.6	564	183
Puri	4,672.1	501	230

SOURCE : Col. 2—Board of Revenue, Orissa

You will notice the wide variation between the two sets of figures. While the pressure of population seems to be the highest in the first six districts of Ganjam (564), Cuttack (563), Puri (501), Keonjhar (413), Balasore (401) and Mayurbhanj (338) on the basis of cultivable area, the corresponding high density districts with reference to the geographical area are Cuttack (341), Balasore (286), Puri (230), Ganjam (183), Bolangir (142) and Mayurbhanj (138). In other words, in districts like Cuttack, Puri, Ganjam, Balasore and Mayurbhanj, the incidence of population density remains high both with reference to the cultivable area and geographic area. In districts like Keonjhar, though the density by the cultivable area is on the high side that by total geographic area is not considerable.

How are we Housed ?

Housing is one of the basic needs of life. 'A roof over the head' is the most elementary need next to two square meals a day and a few clothes to cover one's body with. Census is an important source of information regarding the condition of housing in the country. You will get all the details about houses from our Housing Report. Here it would be worthwhile taking a bird's eye view of the situation

as it obtains in our state before we pre-occupy ourselves with the question of the rate at which our numbers are growing.

In order to appreciate the problem of housing, it is well to find out how many houses there are in Orissa to accommodate its population of about 22 million. Since we live in families, better we understand the position in terms of families. A family or a household as it is called in census is a group of persons commonly living together and taking their food from a common kitchen. According to 1971 Census there were 3.86 million dwelling houses accommodating 4.15 million households.

See table below showing the number of occupied residential houses and households and the average size of a household of the state and of each district.

Table 2.10

State/District	Number of houses	Number of households	Average size of household	
			1971	1961
1	2	3	4	5
ORISSA	3,859,670	4,149,885	5.21	4.81
Sambalpur	352,085	388,285	4.64	4.29

Table 2.10—*Concl'd.*

State/District	Number of houses	Number of households	Average size of household	
			1971	1961
1	2	3	4	5
Sundargarh	191,435	200,395	5.05	4.76
Keonjhar	166,445	172,910	5.37	5.18
Mayurbhanj	253,415	261,205	5.42	5.11
Balasore	285,255	305,415	5.88	5.08
Cuttack	595,220	671,975	5.73	5.16
Dhenkanal	203,575	226,425	5.59	4.99
Baudh-Khondmals	131,730	134,000	4.51	4.17
Bolangir	229,145	249,680	4.94	4.72
Kalahandi	225,890	231,880	4.86	4.76
Koraput	422,285	426,595	4.56	4.32
Ganjam	453,080	464,835	4.59	4.54
Puri	350,110	416,285	5.60	5.12

It would be evident that there are more households than residential houses. Taking the state as a whole, nearly every eleven households live in about ten houses on the average. This disparity between houses and

households is more or less uniform in the districts. There is however nothing unusual about it, because there can be more than one household living in one house. In fact, an excess of 2 to 3 households to a total of 10 houses should be taken as a tolerable margin.

The average size of a household in Orissa in 1961 was 4.81 persons. From the 1971 Census figures we find that the average size of the household in this state as a whole has gone up to 5.21 persons, a slight but significant increase. It is also of interest to note that the size of the household has increased in all the districts without any exception, the rate of increase being more or less uniform. This is perhaps an indication that the building activity in the state has not been able to keep pace with the net addition to the population during the past ten years. It is however good that in spite of this slight increase, the size of a household in our state averages around 5 members. But what about the size or quality of our houses? A house at census is defined as a building or part of a building having a separate main entrance and used as a separate unit. Our definition makes anything with four walls, a roof and an entrance worthy of being called a house. A mansion is a house and a hovel made of bamboo mats for walls

and tin sheets beaten out of used kerosine containers for a roof is also a house provided it is at least 2 metres long, $1\frac{1}{2}$ metres wide and 2 metres high.

There is yet another snag arising out of actual application of the definition of a house. If you are familiar with the housing pattern in our villages you would have noticed rows of small rooms each with a door opening on the village road. A number of these rooms make a single house occupied by one household. One cannot be too sure if the census enumerator did not treat each such room as a separate census house. Similarly the out houses in a compound could have got into the 'Houselist' as independent houses. We cannot vouch for such cases. The number of occupied residential houses put down at 3.86 million in our state could be slightly exaggerated. It is not as if our enumerator had not been cautioned against such contingencies and it is most likely that he exercised his judgment taking the singleness of the purpose of use into account before assigning a number to each house.

However that may be, what is more important is the size and the number of rooms

in the houses and the quality of the structures. We do not have data regarding the size of houses or rooms. But we do know the quality of structure—material of wall and roof and the number of rooms in each house.

Out of a little over 38 lakh residential houses, more than 33 lakh houses or about 87 per cent, have, what we term 'kutcha' walls, i.e., walls made of grass, mud, unburnt bricks, leaves, reeds or bamboo, wood, etc. Of these 33 lakh houses, over 27 lakhs also have 'kutcha' roofs, i.e., roofs constructed of cheap, flimsy and inflammable material like grass, leaves, reeds, bamboo, thatch, mud or wood. 'Pucca' houses, that is to say, houses with walls made of burnt bricks, stone or G. I. sheets, etc., and roofs made of tiles, corrugated iron, zinc or other metal sheets, asbestos cement sheets, brick, lime, stone or R. B. C./R. C. C. account for as little as three and a half lakhs or about 9 per cent of the residential houses in the state. Of these 'Pucca' houses, 161,315 or 45 per cent are in the urban areas while the rural areas claim 195,760 or 55 per cent.

You will be interested to know that 32 per cent of the households in our state live in one-roomed houses, while 37 per cent live in houses having two rooms each. That is to say,

69 per cent of the total households do not have more than two rooms. The remaining 31 per cent of households are distributed among three-roomed, four-roomed and still bigger houses in proportions of 15, 9 and 7 per cent. This proportion remains more or less the same in rural areas of the state while in the urban areas, the proportion of households living in one-roomed houses is higher (40 per cent).

Coming to districts, one notices that the coastal districts generally have fewer households living in one-roomed houses and more households living in two-roomed houses, whereas the backward and Adibasi predominant districts of Koraput, Mayurbhanj, Sundargarh, Keonjhar and Baudh-Khondmals have a much larger proportion of households living in one-roomed houses. Households living in three rooms or more are very few in all districts. Another aspect you would observe is that in most of the districts, the percentage of households living in one-roomed and two-roomed houses does not vary much between the urban and rural areas.

It should now be interesting to see how many persons on the average live in a room in households of different sizes. Take a look at the Table 2.11.

Table 2.11

Households with number of rooms	Number of occupants per room in	
	Rural area	Urban area
1	2	3
1. Households with one room ..	4.14	3.63
2. Households with two rooms ..	2.50	2.41
3. Households with three rooms ..	1.95	1.87
4. Households with four rooms ..	1.69	1.61
5. Households with five rooms or more ..	1.39	1.22

You would see that the number of occupants in a single-room house in rural areas is a little over 4 while in case of urban areas it is somewhat less. Such a situation becomes all the more significant when we remember that a little less than one-third of our rural households and 40 per cent of the urban households live in one-room houses. Though we do not know the measurements of the room in a one-room house, one could say from general observation that in rural areas this single-room house is too small for all the four occupants. In the urban areas the one-room

house could possibly be a hovel in a slum or a decrepit structure of any description. In any case, the huddling together of nearly four persons on the average in one room should be regarded as a fairly high degree of congestion. This is the broad picture of how our people are generally accommodated.

As you already know, along with inhabitants in regular households, census of houseless persons and those residing in institutions like hospitals, jails, hostels, etc., has also been taken. According to 1971 Census, there were 125,251 persons who were living in institutions. Houseless persons who live on roadside, temple 'mandaps' and the like and who, as you would recall, were enumerated on the night of the last day of census count, number 14,000. This population also needs to be taken account of while considering any matter relating to housing.

Growth Rate

After knowing the total population of our state and country, questions like how many were we decades ago, how fast are we growing or what will be the size of our population like decade hence, will naturally arise in one's mind. Before getting down to these questions, it is necessary to have clear idea about certain

concepts, like growth rate, birth rate and death rate which usually occur in the Census Reports. 'Growth rate' of a population as the term denotes is the rate at which the population of a given area is growing over a given period of time. Take for instance our own state. In 1961 our population was 17·5 million. This grew to 21·9 million in 1971 recording an increase of 4·4 million. This increase when expressed as a percentage over the population of 1961 is 25·05 which is spoken of as the 'Percentage decade variation'. If we divide the total increase of population into ten equal parts, the addition to the population every year works out to 2·5 per cent. This is the annual average growth rate or what is spoken of as arithmetic growth rate. There are other sophisticated measures like the geometric growth rate or exponential growth rate; but let us not get into these technicalities here. But you must understand the geometric growth rate which is adopted for international use.

Geometric Growth rate of Population

Population is a dynamic variable. It changes numerically at every point of time. It is not correct, therefore, to assume that a fixed number of persons is added to a given size of population at the end of every year

which remains constant throughout the decade. Populations grow according to the principle of 'compound interest' rather than of 'simple interest'. The base is increased each year by the amount of increase during the preceding year. If a population numbers 1,000 at year 0 and is growing at the rate of one per cent per year, it would number 1,010 at the end of the first year. At the end of second and third years the number would be 1,020.10 and 1,030.301 and not simply 1,020 and 1,030 respectively according to the law of simple interest. It is very important to bear in mind this principle of compounding since it shortens the period within which a population doubles*. The present annual geometric growth rate for the world population for the decade 1961—71 is computed at 2 per cent and that of India at 2.22 per cent.

The change in population numbers between two points of time is the net effect of three factors, namely, births, deaths and migration. These are, therefore, called the components of population growth. Births and deaths which are the two natural biological processes have been going on incessantly bringing about a continuous change of

* Warren S. Thompson and David T. Lewis—Population Problems

population at every moment. The difference between the number of births and the number of deaths in a given period of time is known as 'natural increase'. In addition to births and deaths, migration which means movement of population from one area to another plays its part in the calculation of the growth of the population of an area. It adds to the population of the area migrated to and decreases that of the area migrated from. In any area the persons coming in are called in-migrants, while persons going out are called out-migrants. Since in-migration and out-migration are possible for the same area, it is more precise to call the third component of population growth as 'net migration' which is only the difference between the number of in-migrants and the number of out-migrants of an area. So the overall population growth of an area is the resultant of natural increase and net migration.

The total number of births or deaths in an area is usually expressed in the form of rate per thousand population per year. These rates are called 'crude rates'. The birth rate and the death rate are not derived directly from the census records. These are usually obtained from the Vital Registration records or in addition through sample surveys. Though in advanced countries births and

deaths are recorded regularly and systematically through normal administrative channels, in our country unfortunately, there is no regular or reliable system to register Vital Statistics. Normally, therefore, sample surveys are undertaken to calculate birth rate and death rate which have however their own limitations.

With this general idea of the demographic concepts let us try to understand the growth of world population and in that context that of our own country and state. The total number of people inhabiting the earth's surface numbered not more than ten to fifteen million at the end of the Stone Age (Circa 5000 B. C.)*. How big or small was the human family in those days can be judged from the fact that it was close to the population of Assam a decade ago or the population of Orissa, at the beginning of the century. But by the beginning of the Christian era, the world population had touched almost the 250 million mark. This rose to twice this size in 1650. This doubled itself again in 1830 A. D. when the world population passed the billion mark. It took another hundred years to add the second billion and only thirty more years

* S. Chandrasekhar—Asia's Population Problem

(1930 to 1960) to add the third. It is now placed at 3·71 billion. The United Nations have made three projections, namely, High, Medium and Low indicating the probable size of the world population by 2000 A. D. These are respectively 6,994 million, 6,130 million and 5,440 million. They have recommended for use the Medium projection, namely, 6,130 million foretelling a fall in the annual geometric growth rate from 2 per cent in the decade 1960—70 to 1·8 per cent during 1990—2000.

In the background of this world picture let us try to understand the rate at which the population of our country has been growing over the past decades. See Table 2.12 giving the population and the growth rate of India for each of the decades from 1901 to 1971.

Table 2.12

Year	Population	Net change of population during the decade	Growth rate of population during the decade
1	2	3	4
1901	238,337,313	..	..
1911	252,005,470	+13,668,157	+5·73

Table 2.12—*Concl'd.*

Year	Population	Net change of population during the decade	Growth rate of population during the decade
1	2	3	4
1921	251,239,492	—765,978	—0·30
1931	278,867,430	+27,627,938	+11·00
1941	318,539,060	+39,671,630	+14·23
1951	360,950,365	+42,411,305	+13·31
1961	439,072,582	+78,122,217	+21·64
1971	547,949,809	+108,877,227	+24·80

You will notice that the growth of population was unusually poor from 1901 to 1921. The growth rate for the decade 1911—21 was in minus figures while that for the decade 1901—1911 was a mere 5·73 per cent working out to an annual average of 0·57 per cent. Compared to this, the rate of growth during the next three decades, viz., 1921—31 to 1941—51 was consistently up and steady. Against a meagre average growth rate of 2·7 per cent per decade between 1901 to 1921, it jumped to 12·8 per cent per decade during

1921 to 1951. The subsequent decades, viz., 1951—61 and 1961—71 were marked by a high growth rate computed at 21·64 per cent and 24·80 per cent respectively. In the history of population growth of our country, 1921 and 1951 mark the real turning points. While after 1921, the population started rising steadily the period from 1951 has been marked by an unprecedented growth of population.

The last decade, i.e., 1961—71 saw a net addition of 109 million to the population of India which is so far the highest growth experienced in any decade. Incidentally, you may be interested to know that this increase recorded in a single decade is more than Japan's total population of 104 million and is slightly more than half of U.S.A's population of 203 million.

As we have seen, growth rate of our population depends largely on the birth and death rates. In our country, except in certain areas, migration plays an insignificant part. The birth rate in India had remained high in all the years with only a slight fluctuation in 1921, and even after 1921 it had dropped only slightly. The death rate, on the other hand, had remained very high up to 1921 and it

decreased steadily thereafter. Famines and epidemics were widely prevalent prior to 1921 and these accounted for a high mortality. Afterwards, with progressive improvement in transport and communications enabling quick movement of food and with control of epidemics, death rate started reducing progressively. Particularly in the last two decades with the advance of medical science and development of public health and sanitary measures there has been a sharp fall in the death rate though no significant change in the birth rate is in evidence. The birth rate which was 45.8 in 1901 and 41.7 in 1960 has dropped to 39.00 at present. In comparison, the death rate which was around 44.4 in 1901 and 22.8 in 1960 has gone down to 15.9 in 1970. According to calculations made by demographers the death rate is likely to decline still further in the coming decades and might be comparable to that prevailing in western countries before the end of the current century. With an unchanging high birth rate and a declining death rate it is no wonder that the population has grown faster during the last two decades. See from the following table the growth rate of population of a few advanced countries.

Table 2.13

Name of country	Last census year	Geometric growth rate of population 1963—71 (%)
1	2	3
United States of America	1970	1.1
Canada ..	1971	1.8
Brazil ..	1970	2.8
Chile ..	1970	1.4
Czechoslovakia ..	1970	0.5
France ..	1968	0.9
Norway ..	1970	0.8
Switzerland ..	1970	1.2
Yugoslavia ..	1971	1.0
Sweden ..	1970	0.8
United Kingdom of Great Britain ..	1971	0.4
Indonesia ..	1971	2.8
Sri Lanka ..	1971	2.2
U. S. S. R. ..	1970	1.1
Japan ..	1970	1.1
Egypt ..	1966	2.5

Source : United Nations—Demographic Year Book, 1971.

Growth rate of Population of Orissa

How does the growth rate of population of our state fit into the all-India pattern? See Table 2.14 giving the growth rate of our state for each of the decades from 1901—11 to 1961—71. While during the 30-year period from 1901 to 1931 the average growth rate of our state per decade was higher than the all-India average, that for each of the subsequent decades up to 1961 has fallen behind the all-India rate. In the last decade, however, as we have already seen, the growth rate of our state computed at 25.05 was higher than the all-India average of 24.80 per cent. The annual average or arithmetic growth rate of our state is 2.5 per cent as against the all-India figure of 2.48 per cent. In terms of geometric growth rate, ours is 2.24 against 2.22 for the country.

Table 2.14

Year	Population	Net change of population during the decade	Growth rate of population during the decade
1	2	3	4
1901 ..	10,302,917	..	..
1911 ..	11,378,875	+1,075,958	+10.44

Table 2.14—Concl'd.

Year	Population	Net change of population during the decade	Growth rate of population during the decade
1	2	3	4
1921 ..	11,158,586	—220,289	—1·94
1931 ..	12,491,056	+1,332,470	+11·94
1941 ..	13,767,988	+1,276,932	+10·22
1951 ..	14,645,946	+877,958	+6·38
1961 ..	17,548,846	+2,902,900	+19·82
1971 ..	21,944,615	+4,395,769	+25·05

Comparison with other States

There are some states like Assam, West Bengal, Gujarat, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Rajasthan and Tripura whose growth rate during the past decades has been higher than the all-India rate. This is more pronounced for most of these states during the past two decades (1951—71). At the other end, there are states like Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Mysore, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh who have registered a lower growth rate than the all-India average during the past decades. Though in recent decades, some of these states have shown signs of remarkable recovery, they continue to lag

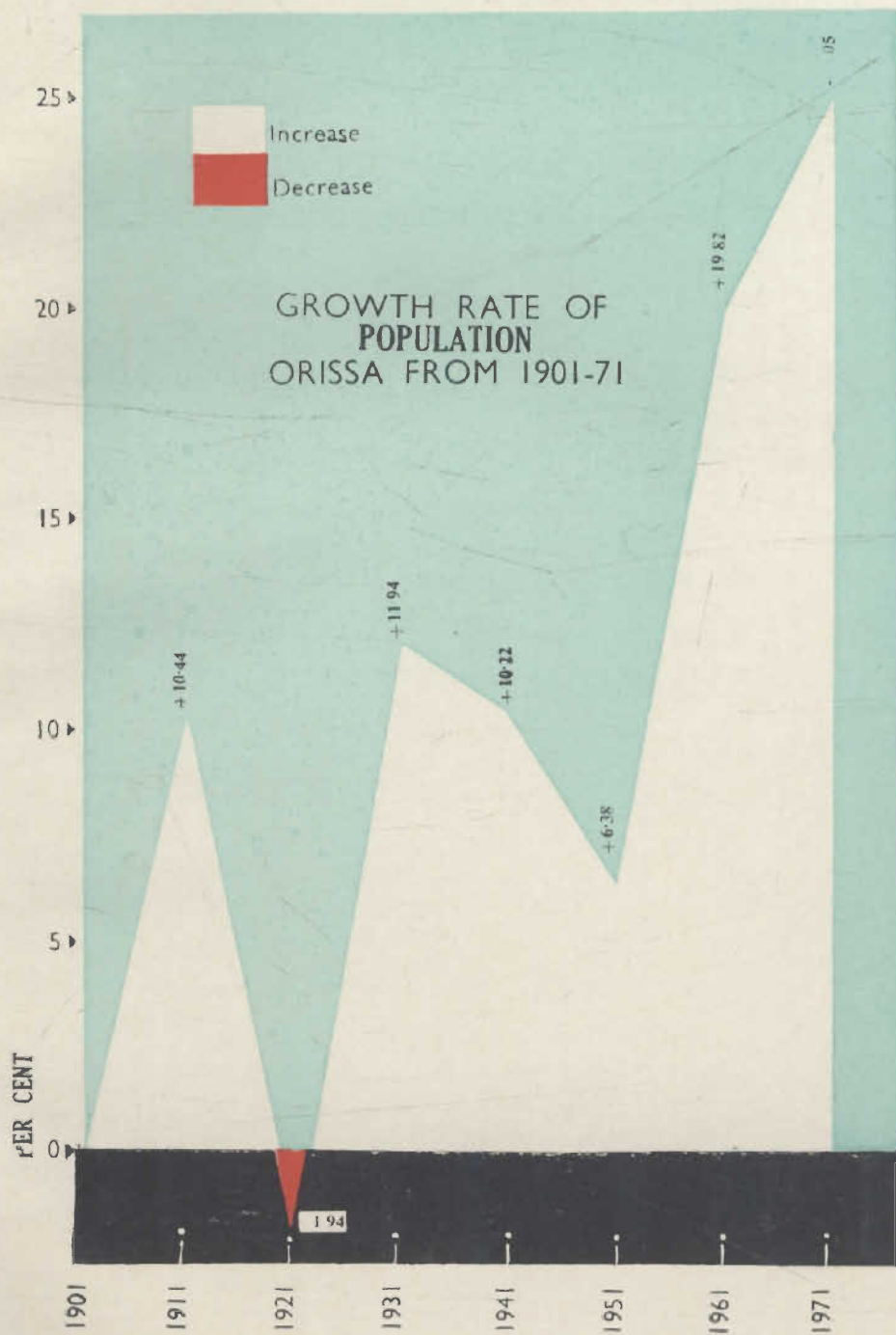
behind the national average. It may be interesting to note that Uttar Pradesh which has dominated the scene for decades as the most populous state has recorded consistently a lower growth rate than the average recorded for the country.

Review of Growth in Orissa

As in the case of the country as a whole so also for our state, the years 1921 and 1951 marked the turning points in the trend of population growth. It is after 1921 the growth rate of our state assumed a somewhat steady course and in the decades following 1951 it was remarkably high.

The decade 1911—1921 was a dismal period for our state. The effects of the First World War, floods of 1917, drought in 1918 and outbreak of the most decimating epidemic of influenza in living memory were the main reasons for loss in population during this decennium below 1911 level. In no other decade there has been a decrease in the total population of the state. There was a depletion in the population in seven districts, while in other districts the growth of population was very marginal.

In contrast, 1921 to 1941 was a period of comparative overall prosperity. Apart from the fact that Orissa was carved out as a separate province on the 1st April 1936, the crop



position was good and the general public health condition satisfactory. This period was also marked by impressive beginning in the spheres of mining and industrialisation. All this was reflected in a steady growth rate of population. But things changed for the worse in the subsequent decade (1941—51). The achievement of independence for India was preceded by the Second World War and high prices of consumer goods, recurring outbreak of cholera in coastal districts and general deterioration in public health were the marked features of this period. The growth rate for this decade fell to 6·38 per cent from the decennial average of 11 per cent experienced in the previous two decades. The period from 1951 onwards was one of unprecedented growth of population in the state as in the rest of the country. As a result of planned economic development in different spheres and of medical and public health measures there was a spurt of population growth in Orissa during the decade 1951—61 with a net addition of 2·9 million. As for the last decade 1961—71, as you have already seen, the growth rate rose from 19·82 per cent in 1961 to 25·05 per cent in 1971 the net increase of population being in the order of 4·4 million which is the highest in any decade so far in our state.

According to the computed rates available for Orissa the birth rate which was around 40 in 1960 dropped to 38.1 in 1970, which is close to the all-India rate of 41.7 in 1960 and 39 in 1971. There has been a sharp decline in the death rate in our state from 22.9 in 1960 to 16.4 in 1970 which also compares favourably with the all-India death rate, 22.8 in 1960 dropping to 15.9 in 1970. The rising growth rate of our state as of the country is the result of the unholy combination of a continuing high birth rate and a sharply falling death rate.

If this state of things continues, that is, if the population of our state continues multiplying at the present geometric growth rate of 2.24 it would double itself to nearly 44 million by the end of the century.

Growth rate in Districts

It would be worthwhile now to turn to districts of our state to see if there is any significant differential in their growth rate. As in the case of the state, most of the districts experienced rise and fall in their population growth up to 1951 and thereafter took a bouncing leap from 1951. We may study the growth rate of the districts in two phases, the first phase covering the 50-year period from 1901 to 1951 and the second spread over the last 20 years. Table 2.15 may be studied.

BIRTH AND DEATH RATES IN ORISSA, 1970

(Number per thousand population)

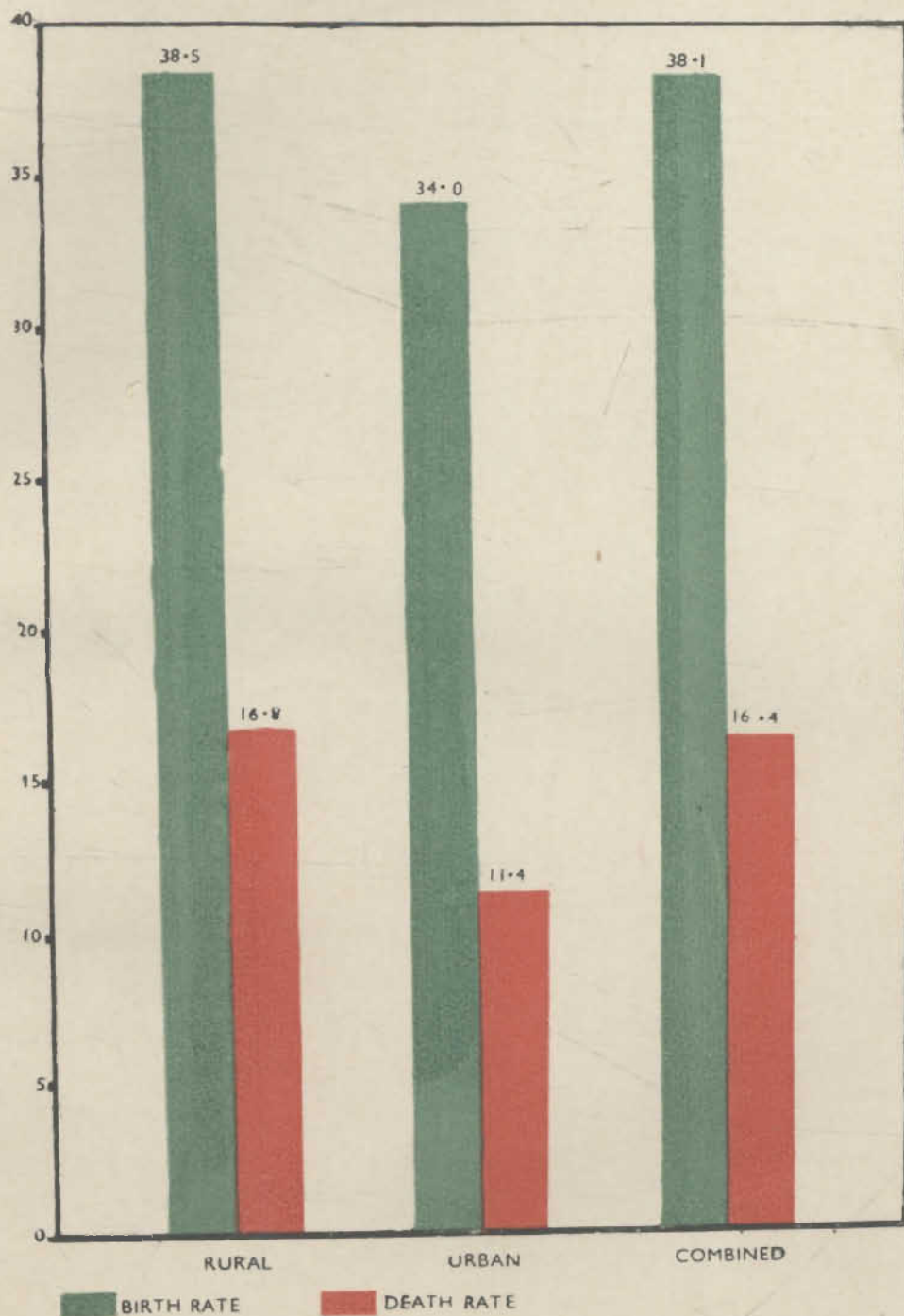


Table 2.15

State/District	Population			Variation in population			Growth rate	
	1901	1951	1971	1901-51	1951-71	1901-71	1901-51	1951-71
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
ORISSA	10,302,917	14,645,946	21,944,615	+ 4,343,029	+ 7,298,669	- -42.15	- -49.83	
Sambalpur	789,258	1,301,804	1,844,898	+ 512,546	+ 543,094	+ 64.94	+ 41.72	
Sundargarh	277,173	552,203	1,030,758	+ 275,030	+ 478,555	+ 99.23	+ 86.66	
Keonjhar	285,758	588,441	955,514	+ 302,683	+ 367,073	+ 105.92	+ 62.38	
Mayurbhanj	610,383	1,028,825	1,434,200	+ 418,442	+ 405,375	+ 68.55	+ 39.40	
Balasore	1,140,102	1,106,012	1,830,504	- 34,090	+ 724,492	- 2.99	+ 65.50	
Cuttack	2,205,296	2,528,237	3,827,678	+ 322,941	+ 1,299,441	+ 14.64	+ 51.40	
Dhenkanal	570,641	837,138	1,293,914	+ 266,497	+ 456,776	+ 46.70	+ 54.56	
Baundh-Khondmals	334,036	456,895	621,675	+ 122,859	+ 164,780	+ 36.78	+ 36.07	
Bolangir	447,625	917,875	1,263,657	+ 470,250	+ 345,782	+ 105.05	+ 37.67	
Kalahandi	449,137	805,675	1,163,869	+ 356,438	+	-	+ 44.46	
Koraput	722,792	1,322,640	2,043,281	+ 599,848	+ 720,641	+ 82.99	+ 54.49	
Ganjam	1,141,963	1,624,829	2,293,808	+ 482,866	+ 668,979	+ 42.28	+ 41.17	
Puri	1,328,753	1,575,372	2,340,859	+ 246,619	+ 765,487	- 18.56	+ 48.59	

Growth rate of Districts up to 1951

The growth rate computed for the state as a whole for the first half of the century is 42·15 per cent over the 1901 figure. This works out to an annual average of only 0·84 per cent. It is curious to observe that as against this low growth of 42·15 per cent for the state, the growth rate recorded by as many as seven districts during this period (1901—51) ranged between 65 and 106 per cent. Keonjhar and Bolangir showed the highest growth rate, i.e., 105·92 per cent and 105·05 per cent respectively followed by Sundargarh (99·23 per cent), Koraput (82·99 per cent), Kalahandi (79·38 per cent), Mayurbhanj (68·55 per cent) and Sambalpur (64·94 per cent). Even during 1911—1921 which is the worst period in the demographic history of Orissa with a negative growth rate of (—) 1·94 per cent, the district of Bolangir stands out with a remarkable growth rate of 15·50 per cent.

Ganjam (42·28 per cent), Dhenkanal (46·70 per cent) and Baudh-Khondmals (36·78 per cent) did moderately well keeping pace with the state average more or less. But the performance of the three coastal districts was distressing. The growth rate of Cuttack during this 50-year period was as low as 14·64 per cent and that of Puri 18·56 per cent.

Balasore showed up a negative growth rate of 2.99 per cent. It had lost 34,090 from its 1901 population.

Such a situation is attributed to repeated visitation of epidemic diseases, predominant among which was malaria, recurrent periods of agricultural distress and large scale out-migrations. The other two coastal districts, viz., Puri and Cuttack also suffered greatly from the natural calamities like floods, cyclones as also epidemics. These factors working in combination resulted in a depressing birth rate and a high mortality rate which, in their turn, resulted in a low rate of natural increase. Large scale out-migrations to neighbouring states also had the effect of depressing the growth rate of population still further.

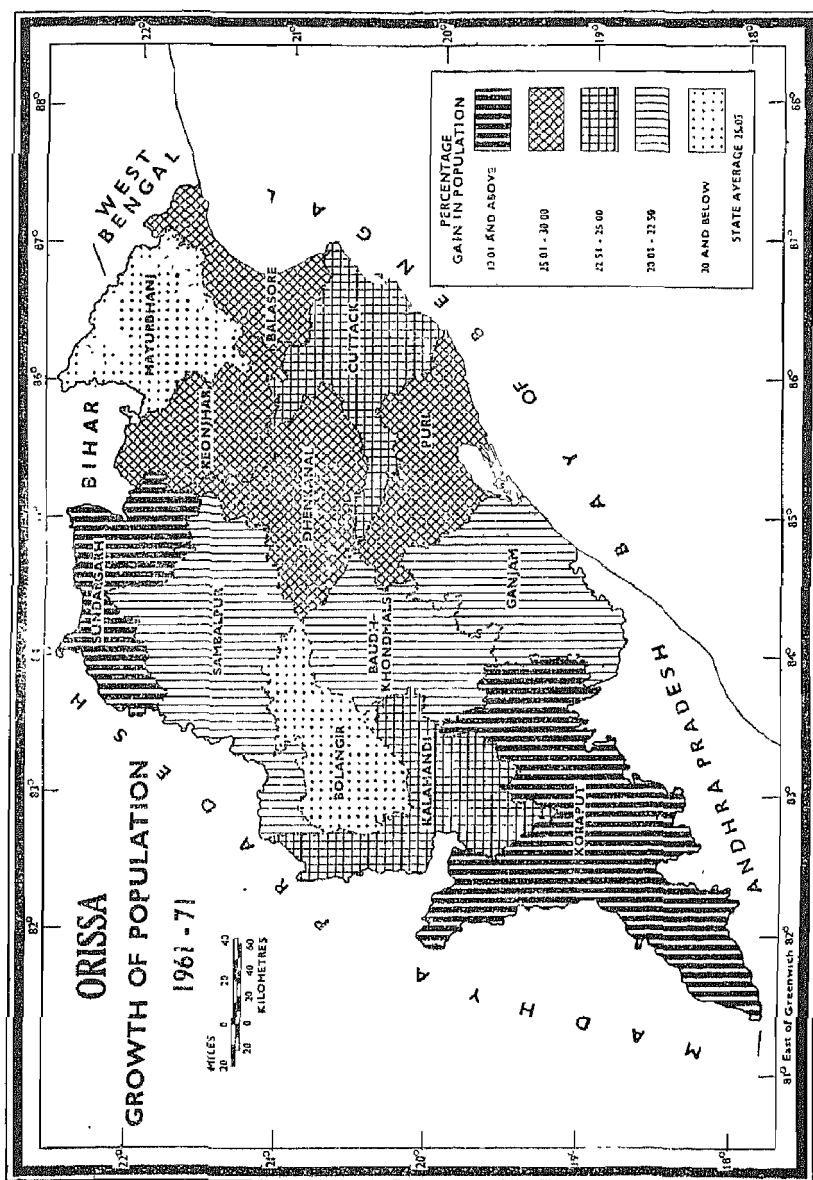
Growth rate of Districts—1951 to 1971

As mentioned earlier, it is a different story altogether for almost all the districts of Orissa from 1951 onwards. In terms of absolute increase in population, nearly all the districts added more to their population during these two decades than they did for all the five decades from 1901 to 1951. A look at the Table 2.15 will show that among the districts, Balasore is the most striking. While from 1901 to 1951 it had, as we have seen, a

net decrease of 34,090 persons it added more than seven lakh persons to its population during the succeeding 20 years (1951—1971). Other districts which added impressive numbers to their population are Puri, Ganjam, Koraput, Cuttack, Dhenkanal and Sundargarh. In case of Kalahandi, Sambalpur, Keonjhar and Baudh-Khondmals districts the net addition of population during the last two decades was almost equal to or higher than the population added during all the five decades from 1901 to 1951. Bolangir and Mayurbhanj are the only two districts where net addition during the last two decades was somewhat less than that of the preceding five decades (1901—1951).

In terms of growth rate, the highest during 1951—71 has been recorded by Sundargarh (86.66 per cent) followed by Balasore (65.50 per cent), Keonjhar (62.38 per cent), Dhenkanal (54.56 per cent) and Koraput (54.49 per cent).

See columns 5 to 8 of Table 2.15 to know the performance of individual districts. Taking the last decade 1961—71 which, as we have already observed, experienced the highest growth of population for the country as well as for our state, the growth rate recorded by the different districts can be seen from the Table 2.16. It ranges between 18 and 36



per cent. The districts which have shown up their growth rates higher than the state average (25.05 per cent) are Sundargarh (35.87 per cent), Koraput (30.89 per cent), Balasore (29.28 per cent), Keonjhar (28.55 per cent), Dhenkanal (26.04 per cent) and Puri (25.51 per cent) in that order. The lowest rate (18.24 per cent) has been recorded by Bolangir.

Table 2.16

State/District	Growth rate of population during 1961—71
1	2
Sundargarh ..	35.87
Koraput ..	30.89
Balasore ..	29.28
Keonjhar ..	28.55
Dhenkanal ..	26.04
Puri ..	25.51
Orissa ..	25.05
Cuttack ..	24.96
Kalahandi ..	22.92
Ganjam ..	22.50
Sambalpur ..	22.29
Baudh-Khondmals ..	20.85
Mayurbhanj ..	19.12
Bolangir ..	18.24

The Hirakud irrigation and power project in Sambalpur, Machkund hydro-electric project and aero-engine factory, Sunabeda in Koraput district, the giant steel plant and the fertiliser projects in Rourkela in Sundargarh district, Talcher thermal complex and fertiliser factory in Dhenkanal district are among the highlights in the sphere of industrial development which contribute to the rising trend of the growth of population in those districts. At the other end of the scale are natural calamities like flood, cyclone and drought—the first two in the coastal districts and the third in the inland districts which have become more or less regular features. Even so these do not appear to have affected the soaring trend of the population growth largely because of the counterbalancing effect of all-round development, control of epidemics, improved public health measures, etc., resulting in a sharp decline in the mortality rate.

3

VILLAGE-DWELLERS AND TOWN-DWELLERS

INDIA AS YOU KNOW is a country of villages. Nearly 80 per cent of her population live in over half a million villages. Only about a fifth or 20 per cent of the total population live in urban areas. The reverse seems to be the case with U. K. There, nearly 80 per cent of the population live in towns and the remaining about 20 per cent in rural areas. In countries like Canada, France, U. S. A. and Japan the urban proportion is similarly high around 70 per cent. Can you guess what the urban population in our own state is like ? It is a mere 8 and odd per cent, which means that over 91 per cent of our

people live in villages. Now, why should it be important if a country or state has high or low proportion of urban population ?

Earlier in this book we saw the staggering rate at which we have been multiplying from year to year. We also saw the growing pressure of people on agricultural land. If this trend continues unabated you can imagine the consequence of such a lopsided situation. The rural areas will become full to overflowing which the agricultural land may not be able to sustain. The excess of population has, therefore, to be drawn away from land and more gainfully utilised. Various forces are already at work to bring about a radical change in different spheres involving the social and economic life of the people in the countryside. In this, towns as centres of work, education, trade, industry and services play a crucial role. They absorb the labour force migrating from the countryside. It is the town the rural farmer looks forward to for marketing of his surplus produce. Compared to the countryside, an urban area offers far brighter opportunities. The urbanite has greater protection from the ravages of nature and stands to enjoy various amenities of life made available through schools, colleges, hospitals, electricity, transport and communication facilities, etc. His expectation of life is

longer and the standard of living far more developed. Urbanisation is the effect of the economic and migration stresses. It is a process through which nations pass as they evolve from agrarian to industrial societies. Urbanisation has become the *sine qua non* of progress.

It will, therefore, be necessary to make a close study of the process of urbanisation in our country. A survey of about 200 small towns in the country has been taken up by the Census organisation of India to study the interaction of urban-rural life. These studies when completed will throw some light on the role the towns play in the socio-economic progress of the society.

In this chapter, we will confine ourselves to an analysis of the distribution of population of our state between towns and villages and such questions as the rate at which urbanisation has been growing in the state as a whole and in the districts.

What is an Urban Area ?

It has been a practice with all censuses to classify the population into two main categories, namely, rural and urban. No society is wholly urban or completely rural. The dividing line is far from sharp. Since conditions

vary between country to country, it has not been possible to formulate a uniform definition which can be applicable to all countries. The size of the settlement is the most universal definition of an urban area. United Nations have defined urban population as a population living in locality of 20,000 or more inhabitants. This may be more suitable for purpose of international comparison. But if we accept such high standards to define an urban area, in our country we would be running the risk of under-reporting the real urban situation.

The definition of 'Urban' as adopted in 1971 Census of India is as follows:

- (a) All places with a Municipality, Corporation or Cantonment or Notified Town area,
- (b) All other places which satisfied the following criteria :
 - (i) a minimum population of 5,000,
 - (ii) at least 75 per cent of male working population is non-agricultural,
 - (iii) a density of population of at least 400 per sq. km. (i.e., 1,000 per sq. mile)

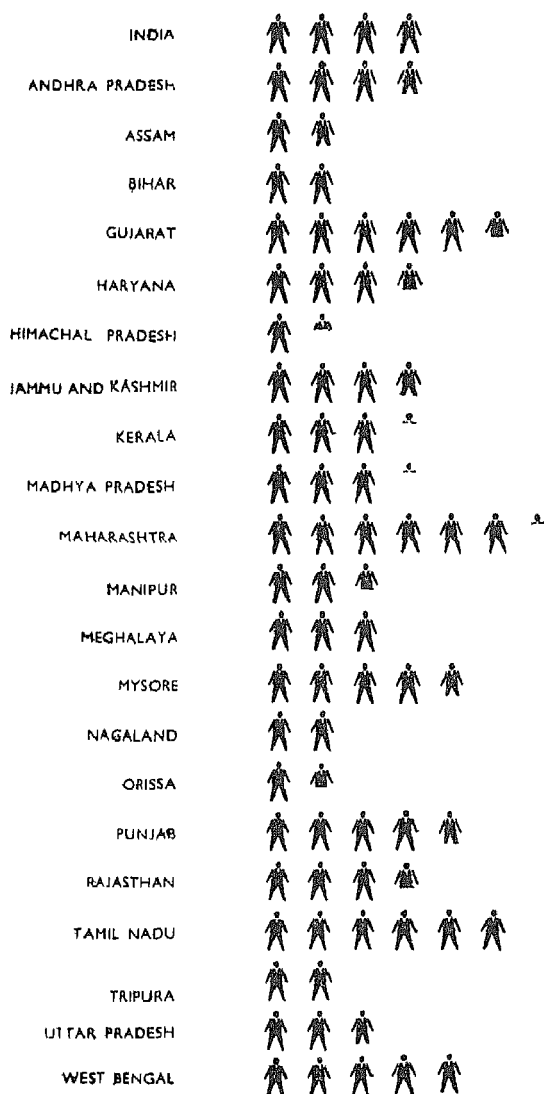
It was only from the 1961 Census that a fairly strict definition of urban area was adopted in India. In the earlier censuses the definition was very liberal and it was left entirely to the discretion of local authorities. At some of the earlier censuses in the pre-Independence era, it is facetiously stated, some princely states of India were inclined to treat any village with a lamp post as an urban centre in order to appear more respectable and civilised.

Even allowing for an elasticity in the definition, urban units in 1951 in our state numbered only 39. In 1961, the number went up to 62 in spite of the stricter definition. For the 1971 Census, this list was carefully reviewed in the light of the criteria laid down. In determining the number of towns for 1971 Census, the District Collectors, the State Town Planner and the Urban Development Department of the state government were all consulted. Eventually, the number of towns in Orissa for 1971 Census has come to be 81 of which 64 are Municipalities or Notified Area Councils and 17 are Census Towns.

Comparison with Other States

If, as we have seen, the population of India is preponderantly rural, it is much more so in case of our state. About 92 persons in

URBANISATION IN STATES OF INDIA 1971



(Each full figure represents 5 per cent of Urban population to Total population)

every 100 in Orissa live in villages. Compared to other states ours is among the least urbanised. See Table 3.1 to get a comparative picture. Maharashtra with the degree of urbanisation at 31.17 per cent in 1971 Census tops the list. This state also held the first place in 1961 with 28.22 per cent. Tamil Nadu comes next with 30.26 per cent. Gujarat has 28.08 per cent while West Bengal and Mysore are just below the 25 per cent mark. Himachal Pradesh among the states has the lowest rate of 6.99 per cent. The only other state that keeps close to Orissa is Assam with 8.87 per cent.

Table 3.1

Country/State	Percentage of urban population to total population, 1971	
1		2
INDIA	..	19.91
Andhra Pradesh	..	19.31
Assam *	..	8.87
Bihar	..	10.00
Gujarat	..	28.08
Haryana	..	17.66

Table 3.1—*Concl'd.*

Country/State	Percentage of urban population to total population, 1971
1	2
Himachal Pradesh	6.99
Jammu and Kashmir	18.59
Kerala	16.24
Madhya Pradesh	16.29
Maharashtra	31.17
Manipur	13.19
Meghalaya	14.55
Mysore	24.31
Nagaland	9.95
Orissa	8.41
Punjab	23.73
Rajasthan	17.63
Tamil Nadu	30.26
Tripura	10.43
Uttar Pradesh	14.02
West Bengal	24.75

* Includes Mizo district which now forms the Union Territory of Mizoram.

It will be worthwhile looking back over the past two decades to see the progress of urbanisation in our state vis-a-vis India. As you will see from Table 3.2, in 1951, the percentage of urban population to total population in our state was about 4 per cent as against 17.30 per cent for the country as a whole. With the first and second five-year plans under way, one would have expected a marked improvement during the decade, 1951—61. But as the census records reveal, the improvement during this decade was not even 1 per cent for the country as a whole. The performance of our state was, however, not as bad; from 4.06 per cent in 1951 it rose to 6.32 in 1961. The stricter definition of an urban area adopted in 1961 by which the number of towns at the all-India level had suffered a reduction might explain the low rate for India. In case of our state, there was on the contrary an addition of 23 new towns to the 1951 list. This may perhaps explain the comparatively better showing of our state over the all-India performance during the decade 1951—61.

In the succeeding decade, i.e., 1961—71, the rise of about 2 per cent was common both to India and our state. From 6.3 per cent in 1961 in our state, it has come up to the present level of 8.4 per cent while at the all-India

level it rose from 17.98 per cent in 1961 to 19.91 per cent in 1971. Today in our state there are about 1.8 million town-dwellers spread over 81 urban centres.

Table 3.2

Country/State	Percentage of urban population to total population in		
	1951	1961	1971
1	2	3	4
India	17.30	17.98	19.91
Orissa	4.06	6.32	8.41

Definition of a Village

In Orissa, as perhaps elsewhere, the word 'village' has usually two meanings. One is as we normally have in mind when we speak of a village. The other is the concept according to the revenue laws, viz., any tract of land which has been recognised as a village in the revenue records. The village area is usually well defined, demarcated and recorded as such after proper survey.

While we adopted villages as they are shown in the land records, for unsurveyed areas we had to improvise some method by which all human habitations located in a composite tract could be accounted for treating

each such tract as a village for the purpose of census. Including such villages in the unsurveyed area, there were altogether 46,992 inhabited villages in our state in 1971 as against 46,466 in 1961.

Table 3.3 gives the number of inhabited villages in Orissa and its districts.

Table 3.3

State/District		Number of inhabited villages
1		2
ORISSA	..	46,992
Sambalpur	..	3,390
Sundargarh	..	1,621
Keonjhar	..	2,009
Mayurbhanj	..	3,712
Balasore	..	3,812
Cuttack	..	6,027
Dhenkanal	..	2,606
Baudh-Khondmals	..	4,397
Bolangir	..	2,523
Kalahandi	..	2,653
Koraput	..	5,683
Ganjam	..	4,223
Puri	..	4,336

Rural Habitations by Size Class of Villages

The villages vary widely in the size of their population. Many are small with less than 200 persons while a few others are as populous as towns with more than 10,000 people. It is difficult to explain as to why some villages should be small and others so large in size. The topography, availability of cultivable land, caste and customs, etc., might have something to do with the size of the habitations.

Out of every 1,000 villages, about 719 are small villages having less than 500 people each. Only 188 villages per thousand have a population size of 500 to 999 while only 75 villages per mille have 1,000 to 1,999 people. The number of villages with still larger population are few and far between. In the entire state, there are only two villages with more than 10,000 persons and 22 villages with a population of 5,000 to 9,999. These large-sized villages are listed in Table 3.4.

In districts like Baudh-Khondmals, Koraput, Ganjam and Kalahandi, a considerable proportion of the villages are very small. Some 80 per cent of the villages in Baudh-Khondmals and 50 per cent in Koraput have less than 200 people each. As against this, the proportion of such small-sized villages in Cuttack (23 per cent), Bolangir (24 per cent),

Keonjhar (27 per cent), Sundargarh (27 per cent) and Puri (31 per cent) districts is all too low. Large-sized villages with more than 500 persons preponderate in Cuttack (42 per cent), Sundargarh, Sambalpur and Bolangir (33 per cent each), Puri (32 per cent) and Ganjam (31 per cent) districts. Ganjam district has the largest proportion of villages (3.6 per cent) with more than 2,000 people.

Table 3.4

District	Police Station	Name of village	Population
1	2	3	4
Koraput	.. Chitrakonda	Chitrakonda	13,283
Koraput	.. Chitrakonda	Ballimelanagar (Orkel)	10,695
Ganjam	.. Parlakhemundi	Kasinagar	8,166
Dhenkanal	.. Parjang	Kumarachari Sahi	7,344
Puri	.. Khandpara	Kantilo	7,339
Keonjhar	.. Barbil	Bolani	7,277
Sundargarh	.. Raghunathpali	Jalda	7,169
Balasore	.. Singla	Sartha	6,785
Cuttack	.. Banki	Talabasta	6,621
Puri	.. Baliana	Pratapsasan	6,476
Ganjam	.. Nuagam	Digapahandi	6,177
Sambalpur	.. Bargarh	Tora	6,146

Table 3.4—Concl'd.

District		Police Station	Name of village	Population
1		2	3	4
Koraput	..	Rayagada	Chandili	6,051
Balasore	..	Basudebpur	Bedeipur	5,912
Keonjhar	..	Harichandanpur	Daitari	5,841
Puri	..	Khandpara	Khandpara (Nizigarh)	5,757
Puri	..	Ranpur	Ranpur Gada	5,709
Ganjam	..	Chatrapur	Ganjam	5,604
Ganjam	..	Kodala	Kodala	5,498
Sambalpur	..	Barpali	Kumbhari	5,472
Puri	..	Puri	Kapileswarpur	5,471
Puri	..	Nayagarh	Itamati	5,450
Puri	..	Satyabadi	Gadasanput	5,377
Balasore	..	Bhadrak	Gujidarada	5,194

Average Population Size of a Village

About 428 persons on the average live in a village in Orissa. The figure was 354 in 1961. States recording a lower average for a village are Meghalaya (187), Himachal Pradesh (190) and Tripura (295). It is 14,102 in Kerala, the state with the most populous villages. Tamil Nadu comes next with 1,826 persons.

Andhra Pradesh has 1,290 and Maharashtra and Punjab have almost double the average population of a village in Orissa.

Among the districts in Orissa, the average population size of a village is the largest in Cuttack district (584). The districts to follow are Sundargarh (488), Puri (487), Ganjam (482) and Sambalpur (479). Baudh-Khondmals records the lowest average population among all the districts. It has only 137 persons per village which is less than one-third of the state average.

Table 3.5 gives the average population size of a village in Orissa and for each of its districts.

Table 3.5

State/District	Average population of a village
1	2
ORISSA	428
Sambalpur	479
Sundargarh	488
Keonjhar	442

Table 3.5—*Concl'd.*

State/District	Average popula- tion of a village
1	2
Mayurbhanj ..	376
Balasore ..	454
Cuttack ..	584
Dhenkanal ..	477
Baudh-Khondmals ..	137
Bolangir ..	467
Kalahandi ..	417
Koraput ..	330
Ganjam ..	482
Puri ..	487

Differential in the Degree of Urbanisation in Districts

A glance at the Table 3.6 will show that among the districts, Sundargarh has the highest proportion of urban dwellers. In this district, there was no urban area till 1941. Two towns, viz., Sundargarh, the district headquarters and Birmitrapur came into existence in 1951. With these two towns the percentage

of urban population to the total population in the district was as low as 2·8 per cent in 1951. With the establishment of steel town of Rourkela, there was a sudden spurt in the proportion of urban population to 17·9 per cent in 1961 and to 23·3 per cent in 1971. Rourkela steel town has now attained the status of a city having more than 100,000 population.

The district to follow in the degree of urbanisation in 1971 is Sambalpur with 12 per cent of its population being urban dwellers. The growth of urbanisation in this district was slow till 1951—61 when construction of Hirakud dam led to establishment of at least two urban centres, viz., Hirakud and Burla. The other new township which came up during the period was Brajrajnagar. This might have resulted in raising the percentage of urban population during the decade (1951—61) to 7·6 per cent. In 1961, there were 7 towns in the district. This rose to 11 in 1971. Addition of 4 new towns, viz., Kuchinda, Padampur, Barpali and Govindpur would have naturally contributed to the growth of urban population in the district to the present level of 12 per cent.

The proportion of urban population to total population of two other districts, viz., Ganjam (11·3) and Puri (9·8) is higher than the

state average (8.41). As to Ganjam, it was 8.3 in 1961. This rise in proportion of urban population in 1971 might be partly due to the addition of 5 new towns, viz., Rambha, Kavisurjanagar, Purushottampur, Polasara and Buguda to the already existing 10 towns. There was no new town in Puri district, however, in 1971. Bhubaneswar, the capital town witnessed a phenomenal growth of population during the last decade. From a Class III town in 1961, it jumped to Class I category and entered the select list of the cities of the state.

Districts whose proportion of urban population is at par with the state average are Koraput (8.2 per cent) and Cuttack (8.0 per cent). In Koraput, there were 7 towns in 1961. Of these, Machkund (2,754) which had lost its urban character after completion of the hydro-electric project was deleted from the list of towns in 1971 and 4 new towns, viz., Umarkot, Sunabeda, Malkangiri and Gudari were added. All these four new towns more than made up the loss on account of declassification of Machkund. Sunabeda, the new township alone emerged with a population of about 28,000 persons. In case of Cuttack district, there was no new town in 1971 except Paradip, the port township. The degree of urbanisation of this district has improved from 6.8 per cent in 1961 to 8.0 per cent in 1971.

The percentage of urban population in the other 7 districts is less than the state average. Mayurbhanj is at the lowest level with 2.8 per cent preceded by Baudh-Khondmals with 3.1 per cent. In Baudh-Khondmals, the proportion was 1.2 per cent in 1961. The improvement could be due to the addition of Phulbani, the district headquarters town as a new town in 1971. The district in 1961 had only a single urban area, namely, Baudh.

Table below gives districtwise distribution of towns with the degree of urbanisation in 1961 and 1971.

Table 3.6

State / District	Number of towns in		Percentage of urban population to total population in	
	1971	1961	1971	1961
1	2	3	4	5
ORISSA ..	81	62	8.4	6.3
Sambalpur ..	11	7	12.0	7.6
Sundargarh..	5	4	23.3	17.9
Keonjhar ..	4	2	7.0	4.3
Mayurbhanj	2	2	2.8	2.4

Table 3.6— Concl'd.

State/ District	Number of towns in		Percentage of urban population to total population in	
	1971	1961	1971	1961
1	2	3	4	5
Balasore ..	4	5	5.5	6.5
Cuttack ..	8	7	8.0	6.8
Dhenkanal ..	4	4	4.0	4.6
Baudh- Khondmals..	2	1	3.1	1.2
Bolangir ..	6	5	6.9	4.6
Kalahandi ..	5	3	4.9	3.0
Koraput ..	10	7	8.2	4.9
Ganjam ..	15	10	11.3	8.3
Puri ..	5	5	9.8	7.2

Urbanisation Range of Tahsils

Of the 103 tahsils in the state, only 58 contain urban population. The remaining tahsils are all rural. Out of these 58 urban tahsils, Cuttack tahsil has 51.3 per cent of its total population, Panposh 48.7 per cent and Berhampur 40.2 per cent living in urban area. It may be noted that each of these tahsils

contains within its boundary a first class town, viz., Cuttack, Rourkela and Berhampur respectively.

The next below range of tahsils containing 25 to 39.9 per cent of urban population are Bhubaneswar (34.2), Barbil (32.3), and Sambalpur (32.1). All these tahsils have within their jurisdiction the towns of the same name.

There are 15 tahsils with an urban population varying between 10 to 24.9 per cent and 37 tahsils with a small urban population of less than 10 per cent. This completes the list of 58 urban tahsils.

Size Classification of Towns

Towns have varied population sizes. At the Indian census, they are brought under the following six categories according to their population :

Class I Towns (or Cities)	..	100,000 and above
Class II Towns	..	50,000 to 99,999
Class III Towns	..	20,000 to 49,999
Class IV Towns	..	10,000 to 19,999
Class V Towns	..	5,000 to 9,999
Class VI Towns	..	Less than 5,000

In India

There are in all about 2,641 urban units in India. Of these, less than 6 per cent or 147 are Class I towns. It is interesting to note that the majority of the urban dwellers in India, viz., 56 per cent of total urban population of the country live in this small number of Class I towns. In 1951 and 1961 these cities also accounted for the largest proportion of urban population. The remaining 44 per cent of the country's urban population are spread over the other five categories of towns. See Table 3.7.

Table 3.7

Country	Size class of urban units	Number of urban units	Percentage of population to total urban population of India in 1971
1	2	3	4
India	All Classes	2,641	100
	I ..	147	56
	II ..	185	11
	III ..	583	16
	IV ..	874	11
	V ..	680	5
	VI ..	172	1

You may be interested to know that among the 25 largest cities of the world, there are three from India, viz., Calcutta, Bombay and Delhi. The list of 25 largest cities of the world in order of their population size is given in Appendix I.

In Orissa

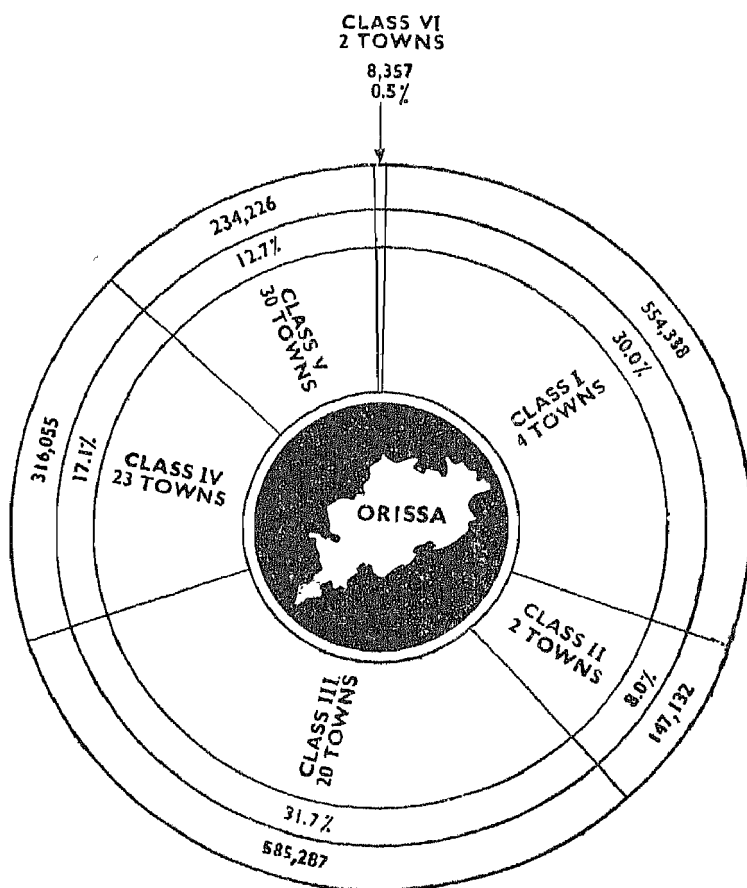
Let us see how the towns in our state are distributed among these classes.

Carefully study Table 3.8 giving a comparative analysis of the number of towns and their respective degree of urbanisation *between the different size classes in 1961 and 1971.*

Table 3.8

Size Class	Number of towns in		Population in		Percentage of population to total urban population of the state in	
	1961	1971	1961	1971	1961	1971
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
I	1	4	146,308	554,338	13.2	30.0
II	3	2	228,033	147,132	20.5	8.0
III	8	20	224,943	585,287	20.3	31.7
IV	22	23	310,647	316,055	28.0	17.1
V	25	30	190,064	234,226	17.1	12.7
VI	3	2	9,655	8,357	0.9	0.5
Total	62	81	1,109,650	1,845,395	100.0	100.0

SIZE CLASS OF TOWNS WITH NUMBER OF TOWNS AND URBAN POPULATION COVERED



There has been many a rise and fall in the status of towns during the last decade. While two towns, viz., Jaleswar and Angul Class IV towns in 1961, were downgraded to Class V, two other towns, viz., Soro and Machkund were declassified in 1971. The net position is depicted in Table 3.8.

There was no Class I town in Orissa prior to 1951. It was in 1951 that Cuttack came to be known as the first and only city of our state with a population just over one lakh. This position continued in 1961 except that Cuttack grew in size to above one lakh and a half. It was in 1971 that 3 other towns, namely, Rourkela steel town and Berhampur from Class II and Bhubaneswar from Class III were elevated to Class I. These 4 cities together account for a population of 554,338 which is about 30 per cent of the total urban population of the state.

There are 2 towns now in Class II category, viz., Puri and Sambalpur. Together they make a population of 1.47 lakhs or 8 per cent of the total urban population. The highest proportion of 31.7 per cent is observed in case of Class III towns. While in absolute number there has been an addition of urban population of the order of 6,000 in case of Class IV towns and of about 44,000 in case of Class V towns the percentage has gone down in 1971 when

compared to 1961 figures for the simple reason that there has been a sizeable increase in the total urban population of the state during the decade.

A complete list of towns arranged by size classes is given in Appendix II at the end of this chapter.

Trend of Growth of Some Important Towns

It may be well worthwhile to have a closer look at the growth rate of the Class I towns or the cities of our state during the past decade. Cuttack city, the metropolis of Orissa, has been growing at a fairly fast rate over the past decades. In terms of percentage decade variation, it was the highest at 42.73 per cent in the decade 1951—61. This has, however, come down to 32.64 per cent during the last decade (1961—71). Compared to this, Rourkela town has grown much faster. This town, as you know, was not in existence in 1951. By 1961 it had a population of 90,287 which rose to 172,502 in 1971, making it a Class I town in one stride. The establishment of the steel plant and the township and the ancillary industries which sprang up around the plant have been responsible for this high growth. Bhubaneswar, the capital city of the state had a meagre population of only 16,512 in 1951. In a matter of 20 years its

population has multiplied more than 6 times. Compared to the preceding decade, the growth rate during the period 1961—71 has been as high as 176 per cent. Apart from the expansion of the city because of establishment of institutions and government offices during 1961—71, the municipal limits of the city expanded considerably during this period by inclusion of 13 neighbouring villages which had developed distinct urban characteristics. Berhampur, the other Class I town has also been showing a steady growth of urbanisation. From a population of 62,343 in 1951 it has gone up to 117,662 in 1971, an improvement of the order of 88.73 per cent during the last 20 years.

The growth rate of Berhampur has been comparatively faster than Cuttack city. There are two big rivers one on each side of Cuttack which may have a restrictive effect on its natural expansion. In case of Berhampur, there is no such handicap.

To take another town which is up and coming, Sambalpur town in the north-west region with a historic background has developed to be an important town of the state with its industries, trade and business activities, medical and educational institutions, particularly in the wake of Hirakud dam project. This is also the seat of a university. This town has maintained a steady and high

growth rate over the past two decades: it was 65 per cent in 1951—61 and 66 per cent in 1961—71. This town has high potentialities and will have most certainly attained Class I status by the next census. If we take into account the two small satellite towns, viz., Burla and Hirakud and certain distinctly urbanised pockets just outside the municipal limits of Sambalpur, the total population of this continuous urban spread (which is otherwise known as urban agglomeration—a concept which I will explain a little later) adds up to 105,085 giving to the agglomeration the status of a full-fledged city.

Functional Classification of Towns and Population Growth rate

Having seen the size classification of towns and the proportion of urban population under each class, it will be an interesting exercise to attempt a functional classification of towns and see if any correlation is possible between such a classification and the growth rate of population. There are five main functions under which towns can be classified. These are: (i) primary or agricultural activity, (ii) industry, (iii) trade and commerce, (iv) transport and communication and (v) services. One of these functions may constitute the predominant occupation of the people of a town, or two major functions in combination may represent the principal characteristic of a

town. Yet a third category of towns may be possible where several such functions co-exist. The first category is known as mono-functional, the second bi-functional and the third multi-functional. Rourkela steel town is an example of mono-functional town with industry as its main function. So is Paradip, a transport town. Cuttack and Berhampur with trade and commerce and services as the predominant occupation of their people come under bi-functional category. Towns like Sambalpur, Balasore, Rayagada, etc., are classified as multi-functional towns.

The towns under the above three categories are listed in Appendix III showing their growth rate of population during the decade 1961—71.

It will be seen that towns which have recorded extraordinarily high growth rates are Koraput (188.23 per cent), Brajrajnagar (96.45 per cent), Chowdwar (80.29 per cent), Bolangir (91.54 per cent) in the mono-functional group; Khalikote (104.73 per cent) a bi-functional town; and Jajpur Road (80.41 per cent), Titlagarh 95.13 per cent) in the multi-functional category. In contrast, negative growth rate is noticed in case of bi-functional towns, viz., Khariar (-2.82 per cent), Chandbali (-28.59 per cent) and of mono-functional towns, viz.,

Jaleswar (−34.22 per cent), Angul (−42.43 per cent) and Nayagarh (−10.42 per cent). It is relevant to take note of the fact that in almost all these cases there has been a significant change in the town area during the last decade. While there has been a marked increase of area in towns like Koraput (from 7.77 sq. km. in 1961 to 97.12 sq. km. in 1971), Brajrajnagar (from 7.77 sq. km. to 41.44 sq. km.), Chowdwar (from 9.32 sq. km. to 31 sq. km.), Bolangir (from 15.54 sq. km. to 31 sq. km.) and Khalikote (from 0.26 sq. km. to 8.55 sq. km.), there has been reduction in area in case of towns like Jaleswar (from 23.57 sq. km. to 12.95 sq. km.), Chandbali (from 21.50 sq. km. to 6.11 sq. km.) and Angul (by 9 villages).

This being the position, it becomes difficult to establish a causal connection between the functional classification of towns and their growth rate. There does not appear to be any set pattern of growth of towns following any particular function or functions. This is perhaps because the urbanisation in Orissa is still in a low key and is inching forward slowly. Primary or agricultural activity either by itself or in combination with other traits is still the predominant characteristic of a majority of our towns. By and large, our towns are in various stages of growth on their own momentum.

But this is not to deny or underestimate the influence exerted by the different urbanistic functions like industry, trade, transport and communications, etc., in drawing away surplus population from the countryside to boost urban concentration. Such forces are already at work, as will be evident from the trend of growth exhibited in case of a few towns like the industrial mono-functional town Rajgangpur with a growth rate of 58 per cent, a bi-functional transport and services town Jatni (56.33 per cent) and multi-functional towns, viz., Jajpur Road (80.41 per cent) and Titlagarh (95.13 per cent) with no change in their area. Besides new towns like Rourkela Civil Town, Joda, Sunabeda, Paradip among other towns by virtue of their respective industrial, mining, trade, transport and services background have great potentialities as urban centres.

Urban Agglomeration

Here I will introduce you to a new concept, namely, Urban Agglomeration. A town, as you know, is either a Municipality or a Notified Area Council or one recognised as a town in the Census because it satisfied certain minimum urban characteristics. The boundary of a Municipality or Notified Area Council is always defined by law. At times it so happens that the areas around this

statutorily defined boundary develop certain urban characteristics. A college, a university campus or a new railway colony comes up in the fringe of the town. The whole place assumes the look and character of one big town. But these areas are technically outside the limits of the main city or town. They might not be big enough to be recognised as separate towns in their own right. Though to all intents and purposes, the people living in these fringes are so intimately a part of the life of the main town, they are known as rural dwellers. This, you will agree, is an unrealistic situation.

Take for instance, Cuttack city. If you are familiar with this city, you should know that the area known as Khapuria which has in it the Industrial Estate and the Orissa Government Press is for all purposes a part of the Cuttack city. The same is the case with areas known as Chauhiaganj, Nayabazar and even the village Bidyadharpur where the Central Rice Research Institute is located. In fact, all these areas are mere urban outgrowths of the core city. Will you brand the inhabitants as rural just because these areas are outside the limits of the Cuttack municipality? It will be more reasonable to have all such areas tagged on to the main town. The core town along with the urban spread could be

taken in that case as a single urban mass. The other name for this is Urban Agglomeration. Cuttack city, Sambalpur town, etc., along with their urban outgrowths are called Cuttack Urban Agglomeration or Sambalpur Urban Agglomeration and so on. This concept has been adopted at 1971 Census and the census data in respect of such agglomerations have been compiled in a special table.

Constituted in this manner, there are in 1971 Census two city agglomerations, namely, Cuttack and Rourkela and six town agglomerations, viz., Sambalpur, Jatni, Bhawanipatna, Titlagarh, Jajpur Road and Phulbani.

The agglomeration of Cuttack city, as already mentioned, is made up of the urban outgrowth of the city, such as industrial estate (with a population of 7,173), Central Rice Research Institute and other urbanised areas (with a population of 4,518) falling just beyond the municipal limits. The total population of Cuttack city is 194,068 and that of the city agglomeration is 205,759. In case of Rourkela Urban Agglomeration, this is an agglomeration of two adjoining towns, namely, Rourkela steel township and Rourkela civil township without any urban outgrowth component. The total population of the agglomeration is 172,502, Rourkela steel town having a population of 125,426 and the civil township

47,076, It may be noticed that Rourkela steel town is a Class I town by its own right without the agglomeration with the Civil Township.

Out of six town agglomerations, all except Sambalpur town agglomeration are formed out of their own outgrowth and not by fusion with any adjoining town. Jatni and Bhawanipatna agglomerations continue under Class III category and Titlagarh, Jajpur Road and Phulbani agglomerations in Class IV category.

In case of Sambalpur, the adjoining towns, namely, Hirakud and Burla together with the urban outgrowth of Sambalpur core town have combined to make this agglomeration. The population of the main town of Sambalpur according to 1971 Census is 64,675 and as such it retains its original classification as a Class II town; but as indicated earlier, the total population of Sambalpur agglomeration has become 105,085 thus raising the status of the agglomeration to Class I category. Except Sambalpur, there has been no change of status in case of any other town despite the agglomeration.

The details of population composition together with the growth rate of population over the past decades in respect of these agglomerations will be found in Table A-IV of our publication Part II-A.

Standard Urban Area

Another new concept adopted in 1971 Census is Standard Urban Area (SUA). The area constituting an urban agglomeration may change from census to census depending on the changing boundaries of the statutory main urban unit as well as other urban outgrowths. Such changes will be taken care of by the Standard Urban Area which is the projected growth area of a city or a big town of a population size of 50,000 and above as it would be in say 1991, taking into account not only the towns and villages which will get merged into it, but also the intervening areas which are potentially urban. Urban agglomeration as we have seen constitutes a contiguous urban spread over certain adjoining areas with well recognised urban characteristics. The Standard Urban Area is a long term projection. Its limit spreads well beyond the urban agglomeration to a limit up to which contiguous urbanisation is reasonably expected to take place in the next about 3 decades. The Standard Urban Area will thus remain as a statistical reporting unit during the next three successive censuses irrespective of the changes in the boundaries of the local administrative units within the tract. The comparable data which will be available for such an area will be of great use for purpose of urban development planning.

In our state, 8 Standard Urban Areas have been adopted at 1971 Census around the core towns of Cuttack, Rourkela, Berhampur, Bhubaneswar, Sambalpur, Puri, Balasore and Jeypore. Cuttack S. U. A. comprises two Municipal towns, namely, Cuttack city (Agglomeration) and Chowdwar town and 65 revenue villages. Similarly, Rourkela S.U.A. consists of two urban units, viz., Rourkela Steel Township and Rourkela Civil Township and 35 villages, while Berhampur S. U. A. has 33 villages together with two urban units, viz., Gopalpur and Berhampur city. Sambalpur, Burla and Hirakud towns together with 19 villages constitute Sambalpur S. U. A. and the remaining four S. U. As., namely, Bhubaneswar, Puri, Balasore and Jeypore have one town each with 56, 25, 36 and 4 villages respectively.

For such areas separate tabulation of census data has been undertaken. Details of the area, density of population, number of rural and urban components, information regarding residential, houseless and institutional population with comparative figures of population during the last two censuses have been compiled in respect of each such area which will be found in Table A-V of our publication Part II-A (Supplement).

As you have seen, the importance of classifying and presenting census data by rural and urban components of a population cannot be gainsaid. There is a marked difference in the mode of living and outlook between a rural and urban society. This differential is reflected in the various characteristics of population such as, the proportion of males and females, age structure, literacy, language, religion, occupation, etc. In the succeeding chapters of this book, as we deal with different aspects of population, it will be our endeavour to bring out the rural-urban variation inherent in these aspects.

APPENDIX I

Twentyfive largest cities of the world

Rank	Name of City	Country	Population	Date to which the population relates
1	2	3	4	5
1	New York	U. A.	U. S. A.	1-4-1970
	City		7,894,862	
2	Tokyo	U. A.	Japan	1-10-1969(E)
	City		9,005,000	
3	Shanghai	City	China	1970 (E)
4	Buenos Aires	U. A.	Argentina	30-9-1970 (P)
	City		2,972,453	
5	Paris	U. A.	France	1-3-1968
	City		2,590,771	
6	Peking	City	China	1970 (E)
7	London		United Kingdom (England and Wales)	25-4-1971(P)
8	Mexico	U. A.	Mexico	28-1-1970
	City		3,025,600	
9	Moscow	U. A.	U. S. S. R.	1-1-1971 (E)
	City		7,050,000	
10	Los Angeles	U. A.	U. S. A.	1-4-1970
	City		2,816,061	
11	Calcutta	U. A.	India	1-4-1971
	City		3,148,746	

APPENDIX I- *Concl'd.*

Rank	Name of City	Country	Population	Date to which the population relates	
1	2	3	4	5	
12	Chicago	U. A.	U. S. A.	6,978,947	1-4-1970
	City			3,366,957	
13	Greater Bombay	City	India	5,970,575	1-4-1971
14	Seoul	City	Republic of Korea	5,536,377	1-10-1970
15	Sao Paulo	City	Brazil	5,186,752	1-9-1970(P)
16	Cairo	City	Egypt	4,961,000	1-7-1970 (E)
17	Philadelphia	U. A.	U. S. A.	4,817,914	1-4-1970
	City			1,948,609	
18	Djakarta	City	Indonesia	4,576,009	24-9-1971
19	Tientsin	City	China	4,280,000	1970 (E)
20	Rio de Janeiro	City	Brazil	4,252,009	1-9-1970 (P)
21	Detroit	U. A.	U. S. A.	4,199,931	1-4-1970
	City			1,511,482	
22	Leningrad	U. A.	U. S. S. R.	4,002,000	1-1-1971 (E)
	City			3,563,000	
23	Delhi	U. A.	India	3,647,023	1-4-1971
	City			3,287,883	
24	Karachi		Pakistan	3,442,000	1-11-1971 (E)
25	Madrid		Spain	3,146,071	31-12-1970

Note : (1) U.A. -- Urban Agglomeration
 (2) (E) - After the date indicates estimated figures
 (3) (P) — After the date indicates provisional figures
 Source : United Nations Demographic Year Book—1971

APPENDIX II

List of towns in Orissa, 1971 by their size class

Name of Town	Population in 1971	Population in 1961
1	2	3
CLASS I (100,000 and above)		
Cuttack Urban Agglomeration	205,759	146,308
Rourkela Steel Township	125,426	90,287 (one town in 1961 including Steel and Civil Townships)
Berhampur city ..	117,662	76,931
Bhubaneswar city ..	105,491	38,211
CLASS II (50,000 to 99,999)		
Puri ..	72,674	60,815
Sambalpur Municipality, University campus and other areas	74,458	38,915
CLASS III (20,000 to 49,999)		
Rourkela Civil Township ..	47,076	Not available separately
Balasore ..	46,239	33,931
Bhadrak ..	40,487	25,285
Bolangir ..	35,748	18,663
Jeypore ..	34,319	25,291

APPENDIX II—*Contd.*

Name of Town	Population in 1971	Population in 1961
1	2	3
Brajrajnagar .	31,817	16,196
Jalni Urban Agglomeration	29,894	16,068
Baripada .	28,725	20,301
Birmitrapur .	28,063	20,301
Sunabeda	27,980	(New Town in 1971)
Parlakhemundi ..	26,917	22,708
Rayagada ..	25,064	14,537
Jharsuguda ..	24,727	19,227
Barbil ..	24,342	19,340
Chowdwar ..	24,300	13,478
Bhawanipatna Urban Agglomeration ..	23,264	14,300
Bargarh ..	22,865	15,375
Rajgangpur ..	21,876	13,843
Koraput ..	21,505	7,461
Kendrapara ..	20,079	15,830

APPENDIX II—*Contd.*

Name of Town	Population in 1971	Population in 1961
1	2	3
CLASS IV (10,000 to 19,999)		
Dhenkanal ..	19,615	13,727
Keonjhar ..	19,340	12,624
Joda ..	17,353	(New Town in 1971)
<i>Sundargarh</i> ..	17,244	11,329
Jajpur ..	16,707	13,802
Khurda ..	15,879	12,497
Burla ..	15,587	10,230
Hirakud ..	15,040	8,593
Titlagarh Urban Agglomera- tion ..	15,840	7,433
Jajpur Road Urban Agglo- meration ..	13,846	5,989
Nowrangapur ..	13,739	10,380
Aska ..	12,954	9,024
Gunupur ..	12,702	10,180
Bhanjanagar ..	12,353	9,952
Talcher ..	11,794	8,147
Bhuban ..	11,350	9,476

APPENDIX II --Contd.

Name of Town	Population in 1971	Population in 1961
1	2	3
Rairangpur ..	11,226	8,119
Chatrapur ..	10,835	7,835
Hinjili ..	10,821	8,028
Phulbani Urban Agglomeration ..	10,677	(New Town in 1971)
Polasara ..	10,579	(New Town in 1971)
Kantabanji ..	10,489	8,863
Patnagarh ..	10,085	7,592
CLASS V (5,000 to 9,999)		
Kotpad ..	9,856	6,368
Surada ..	9,833	8,703
Umarkot ..	9,826	(New Town in 1971)
Kavisurjanagar ..	9,500	(New Town in 1971)
Banki ..	9,296	5,934
Khariar Road ..	9,226	6,400
Angul ..	9,053	15,738

APPENDIX II—*Contd.*

Name of Town		Population in 1971	Population in 1961
1		2	3
Barpali	..	9,017	(New Town in 1971)
Athgarh	..	8,931	7,256
Deogarh	..	8,906	6,839
Purushottampur	..	8,898	(New Town in 1971)
Baudh	..	8,891	6,088
Kesinga	..	8,536	(New Town in 1971)
Sonepur	..	8,084	7,108
Junagarh	..	7,876	(New Town in 1971)
Khariar	..	7,651	7,873
Malkangiri	..	7,494	(New Town in 1971)
Padampur	..	7,349	(New Town in 1971)
Bellaguntha	..	7,113	5,762
Khalikote	..	6,889	3,365

APPENDIX II—*Concd.*

Name of Town		Population in 1971	Population in 1961
1		2	3
Kuchinda	..	6,838	(New Town in 1971)
Rambha	..	6,771	(New Town in 1971)
Chandbali	..	6,717	9,406
Jaleswar	..	6,711	10,202
Paradip	..	6,705	(New Town in 1971)
Tarbha	..	6,417	(New Town in 1971)
Anandapur	..	6,312	(New Town in 1971)
Nayagarh	..	5,209	5,815
Govindpur	..	5,173	(New Town in 1971)
Bugada	..	5,148	(New Town in 1971)
CLASS VI (Less than 5,000)			
Gudari	..	4,774	(New Town in 1971)
Gopalpur	..	3,583	3,536

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	DHENKANAL DISTRICT	CUTTACK DISTRICT					
7. Bhuban	..	+19.78	5. Chowdwar	+80.29			
	BOLANGIR DISTRICT						
8. Patnagarh	..	+32.84					
	KALAHANDI DISTRICT						
9. Junagarh	..	New Town					
	KORAPUT DISTRICT						
10. Koraput	..	+188.23					
11. Umarkot	..	New Town					
12. Gudari	..	New Town					
	GANJAM DISTRICT						
13. Hinjili	..	+34.79					
14. Purushottampur	New Town						
15. Polasara	..	New Town					
16. Buguda	..	New Town					
	SUNDARGARH DISTRICT						
17. Birmitrapur	.	+38.23					
	DHENKANAL DISTRICT						
4. Dhenkanal		+42.89					
5. Angul		-42.48					
	BAUDH-KHONDMAIS DISTRICT						
6. Phulbani	New Town						
	BOLANGIR DISTRICT						
7. Bolangir		+91.54					
	KALAHANDI DISTRICT						
8. Bhawanipatna		+59.50					
	GANJAM DISTRICT						
9. Chatrapur		+38.29					
	PURI DISTRICT						
10. Puri		+19.50					
11. Bhubaneswar		+176.07					
12. Nayagarh		-10.42					

APPENDIX

(B) Bi-functional towns with

Primary and Services		Primary and Industry		Primary and Trade and Commerce	
Name of town	Growth rate	Name of town	Growth rate	Name of town	Growth rate
1	2	3	4	5	6
Sambalpur District		Balasore District		Ganjam District	
1. Padampur	New Town	1. Chand-bali	—28'59	1. Ram-bha	New Town
Keonjhar District		Baudh-Khondmals District			
2. Keonjhar	+53'20	2. Baudh	+46'04	2. Gopal-pur	+1'33
3. Anandapur	New Town			3. Bella-guntha	+23'45
Mayurbhanj District		Bolangir District			
4. Raurangpur	+38'27	3. Tarbha	New Town		
Kalahandi District		Koraput District			
5. Khariar	—2'82	4. Suna-beda	New Town		
Koraput District					
6. Malkangiri	New Town				
Ganjam District					
7. Kavisurjanagar	New Town				
8. Khalikote	+104'73				
Puri District					
9. Khurda	+27'06				

III— *Contd.*

growth rate (1961-71)

Trade and Commerce and Services		Transport and Services	
Name of town	Growth rate	Name of town	Growth rate
7	8	9	10

Cuttack District

1. Cuttack City +132.64

Puri District

1. Jatni +56.33

Ganjam District

2. Berhampur City +152.94

APPENDIX III—*Conclud.*

(C) *Multi-functional towns with growth rate (1961—71)*

Name of town	Growth rate	Name of town	Growth rate
1	2	1	2
Sambalpur District		Dhenkanal District	
1. Sambalpur ..	+66·20	14. Talcher ..	+44·76
2. Hirakud ..	+75·03	Bolangir District	
3. Jharsuguda ..	+28·61	15. Sonapur ..	+13·73
4. Bargarh ..	+48·72	16. Titlagarh ..	+95·13
5. Govindpur ..	New Town	17. Kantabanji ..	+18·35
Sundargarh District		Kalahandi District	
6. Rourkela Civil Township	New Town	18. Kesinga ..	New Town
Keonjhar District		19. Khariar Road ..	+44·16
7. Barbil ..	+25·86	Koraput District	
8. Joda ..	New Town	20. Jeypore ..	+35·70
Balasore District		21. Kotpad ..	+54·77
9. Balasore ..	+36·27	22. Nowrangapur ..	+32·36
10. Bhadrak ..	+60·12	23. Rayagada ..	+72·42
Cuttack District		24. Gunupur ..	+24·77
11. Kendrapara ..	+26·84	Ganjam District	
12. Jajpur ..	+21·05	25. Bhanjanagar ..	+24·13
13. Jajpur Road ..	+80·41	26. Aska ..	+43·55
		27. Surada ..	+12·98
		28. Pariakhemundi ..	+18·54

4

I ARE THE NUMBER OF MEN AND WOMEN BALANCED ?

What is Sex Ratio

AFTER KNOWING the total population of a country or state, the first question that may strike you is—how many are males and how many females ? What is the proportion between the sexes in the population? This proportion between males and females in a population is known as sex ratio. In Indian census this means the number of females per 1,000 males. In most other countries sex ratio represents the number of males per 100 females. Whatever be the way of presentation, this means the ratio of distribution of men

and women in a population. For our present discussion we will go by the Indian concept, that is, the number of females per 1,000 males. When we will refer to the sex ratio being high it will mean excess of females over males in a population and similarly low sex ratio will denote deficit female population and masculine predominance. The sex ratio will be considered balanced if there are 1,000 females to 1,000 males. Allowing a margin of 100 above or below the 1,000 mark, sex ratios below 900 or over 1,100 are considered to be distinctly unbalanced.

Some Effects of Imbalance in Sex Ratio

A balanced sex ratio is an ideal situation. This had perhaps been intended by nature. Equal division of men and women would unquestionably make for harmony and good social order. Conversely an unequal distribution or what we may call an imbalance in sex ratio will bring in its wake maladjustment in the norms of life, social evil and various other problems. The recklessness of the frontier society, for instance, is partly due to the male predominance in its population. If you go a step further you will notice that the proportion of men and women in the reproductive age, say 15 to 45 in case of women and a little higher in case of men, has an immediate effect on the increase

or decrease of population. It has a distinct bearing on marriage, birth rate and death rate and consequently, on the growth rate of a population.

Now then the question arises—is the population distribution between men and women balanced ? What is the trend and what plausible reasons could there be to explain the disparity, if any ? These are very big questions the answers to which cannot be served ready-made. Anthropologists and demographers all over the world have been seriously at work on these problems. We may confine ourselves in this chapter to the data thrown up in the last and preceding censuses of our country and state and to the available statistics of other countries of the world and try to understand the trend and some of the plausible factors governing sex ratio.

Sex Ratio in Some Countries

Looking round the world, we find that a trend towards imbalance rather than balance in the sex ratio seems to be the order. In most of the Asian countries there is a marked female deficiency. The same pattern of male predominance is also noticed in the Arab states of Africa. At the opposite extreme are USSR and states of central and western

Europe where males are in minority. The same is true of England and Wales and U. S. A. In Australia, Canada and New Zealand (until recently South Africa) there is a modest male predominance. In our own country there has been a slow but steady decline in the sex ratio. The number of females to every 1,000 males which was 972 in 1901 has been steadily falling and was 930 in the 1971 Census. Taking the earth's surface as a whole the mean sex ratio is probably slightly unbalanced.

This phenomenon of excess of males in India in sharp contrast to the excess of females in most of the western countries has engaged the serious attention of the population scientists.

Some Causes of Unbalanced Sex Ratio

Without burdening ourselves with the intricacies of such problems let us try to understand the broad factors responsible for such divergence from a balanced sex ratio. The most important single factor is the birth rate and the death rate. A common phenomenon observed in most countries maintaining regular vital statistics registration is that more male than female babies are born ; and secondly, the female infant is better equipped

for survival resulting in a higher death rate of male over female infants. Given these two natural facts, there is greater chance for a resultant balance in the sex ratio. But in our own country as well as in other underdeveloped countries, the mortality among female infants and maternal mortality are abnormally high due mostly to malnutrition, disease and early and frequent child-bearing under poor or no medical care.

Other reasons contributing to a declining sex ratio include war, migration, occupation, etc., which are by their nature sex-selective. Heavy losses of young men in war naturally lead to an imbalance in the ratio. The low incidence of males in USSR, central and western Europe and Germany is explained by the heavy casualties of young men in World War II.

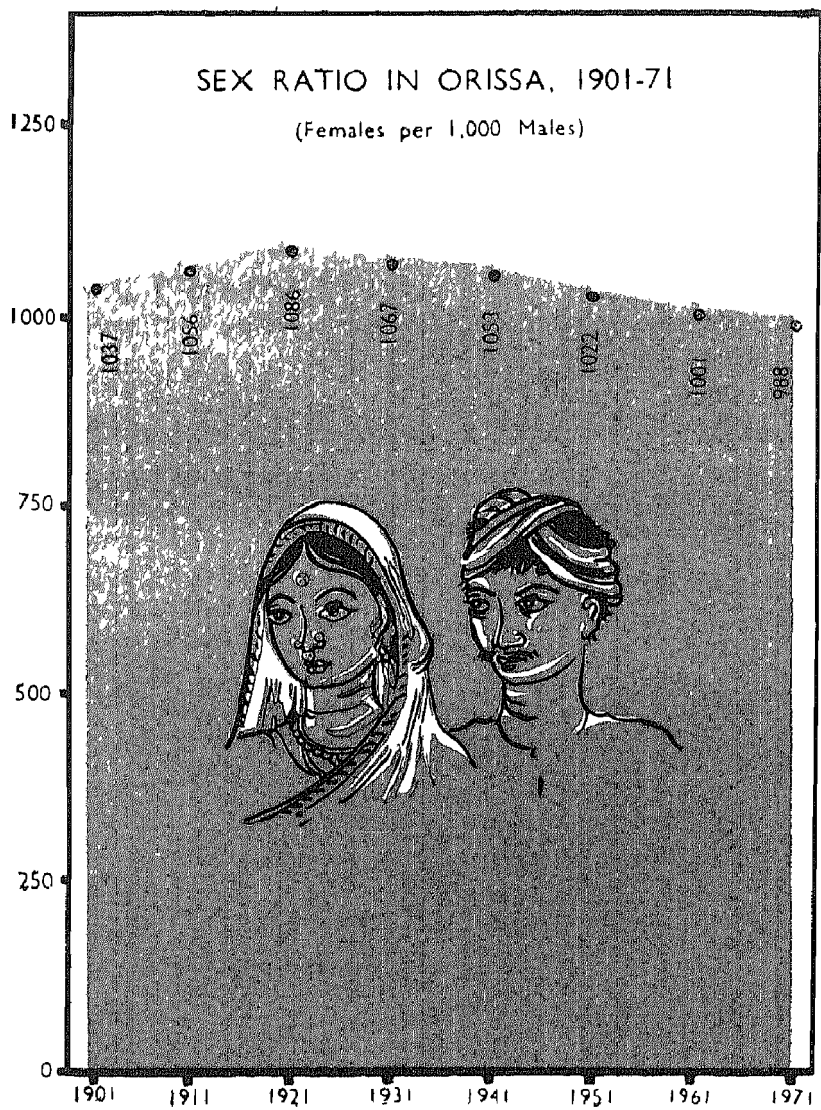
Similarly migration plays an important part in influencing the nature of sex ratio. Migration can be between state and state within the country or from country to country. The first is internal and the second international. While international migration affects the sex ratio of the country as a whole, internal migration has an important bearing on the regional ratio. As you would have noticed, it is the young and able-bodied males, more often

unmarried, who are more mobile in search of employment. In case of married people, the males generally move out leaving their spouses and children with parental families and finally shift their families depending on the housing and other facilities available at the place of work. Short-distance internal migration is variably sex-selective depending on the nature of employment sought by the migrant. If a large number of men move out to another state or territory from their normal residence, the result is concentration of women left behind in the latter and consequently a higher sex ratio, and vice versa so far as the receiving state or territory is concerned. As a rule, therefore, strong in-migration raises the ratio of males whereas out-migration lowers it.

With this background, let us now understand the state of things prevailing in our own country and state.

Sex Ratio in our State and other States

The 1971 Census has revealed that the sex ratio of India is 930. This is in keeping with the declining trend of female population which has become almost a heritage in our country. See from the table below how the ratio has been falling from decade to decade over the



last 70 years. Compared to the preceding decades the loss of female population during the last decade in particular has been rather sharp.

Table 4.1

Year	Sex Ratio
1	2
1901	.. 972
1911	.. 964
1921	.. 955
1931	.. 950
1941	.. 945
1951	.. 946
1961	.. 941
1971	.. 930

Source : Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India—Pocket Book of Population Statistics, 1972

Our own state has not so far been plagued by this problem. In fact, ours was one of the very few states which had shown surplus females till 1961. It was 1,001 according to 1961 Census. In 1971, for the first time, the sex ratio in our state fell below the thousand mark to 988.

What is the position like in other states of our country ? See Table 4.2 which gives a comparative picture of the states.

Table 4.2

Country/State	Sex Ratio in 1971
1	2
INDIA	930
<i>States :</i>	
Andhra Pradesh	977
Assam *	897
Bihar	954
Gujarat	934
Haryana	867
Himachal Pradesh	958
Jammu and Kashmir	878
Kerala	1,016
Madhya Pradesh	941
Maharashtra	930
Manipur	980
Meghalaya	942
Mysore	957

Table 4.2—*Concl'd.*

Country/State 1	Sex Ratio in 1971 2
Nagaland	.. 871
Orissa	.. 988
Punjab	.. 865
Rajasthan	.. 911
Tamil Nadu	.. 978
Tripura	.. 943
Uttar Pradesh	.. 879
West Bengal	.. 891

Source : Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India—Paper 2 of 1972

* Includes Mizo District which now forms the Union Territory of Mizoram.

Scarcity of women seems to be a phenomenon common to all the states, though in varying degrees, except Kerala. Kerala has 1,016 females per 1,000 males or nearly 102 females for every 100 males. Assuming that a short-fall of 50 females per thousand males is a fairly acceptable sex ratio, about half a dozen states qualify to come under this category. In the forefront is Orissa followed closely by Manipur (980), Tamil Nadu (978),

Andhra Pradesh (977), Himachal Pradesh (958), Mysore (957) and Bihar (954). At the other end of the scale representing a very low sex ratio are the states of Punjab (865), Haryana (867), Nagaland (871), Jammu and Kashmir (878) and Uttar Pradesh (879) in that order. You will thus see that among states Orissa is blessed with a comparatively favourable sex ratio next only to Kerala.

Sex Ratio among the Districts

What is the position like in the districts of our state ? Does it follow the same pattern as of the state or does it vary from district to district ? In Table 4.3 are given the sex ratio figures as recorded in 1971 and 1961 Censuses side by side which will help you to compare and appreciate the trend.

Table 4.3

Name of District	Sex Ratio	
	1971	1961
1	2	3
Sambalpur ..	977	995
Sundargarh ..	942	915
Keonjhar ..	977	982

Table 4.3--*Concd.*

Name of District	Sex Ratio	
	1971	1961
1	2	3
Mayurbhanj	.. 987	991
Balasore	.. 972	974
Cuttack	.. 986	999
Dhenkanal	.. 977	991
Baudh-Khondmals	.. 1,004	1,012
Bolangir	.. 993	1,000
Kalahandi	.. 1,010	1,021
Koraput	.. 980	989
Ganjam	.. 1,042	1,082
Puri	.. 977	1,004

You would notice that according to 1971 Census, Ganjam district claims the first position with a surplus of 42 females. Kalahandi comes next with a surplus of 10, while Baudh-Khondmals shows a marginal excess of 4 females. These 3 districts had also shown a surplus of females in 1961. Ganjam had a sex ratio of 1,082, Kalahandi 1,021 and Baudh-Khondmals 1,012. Within the last 10 years

these districts have yielded up 40, 11 and 8 points respectively and yet maintain a surplus of females. Interestingly, Sambalpur, Keonjhar, Dhenkanal and Puri have maintained the same sex ratio of 977. Sundargarh district with 942 has the lowest sex ratio followed by Balasore with 972.

Compared to 1961, the districts of Sundargarh and Puri have revealed wide variations. In 1961 Sundargarh had as few as 915 females per thousand males. The position in 1971 changed for the better, the ratio having improved by a whopping 27 points. The steel city of Rourkela and to a lesser degree, the other industrial areas like Rajgangpur, Birmitrapur and Bisra, all within the district, might have had something to do with this situation. It is likely that at the earlier stage, the male workers from outside the district might have moved singly to these industrial centres, partly explaining the dearth of females in the district in 1961. The housing conditions in these areas and more particularly in Rourkela having improved within the last 10 years, it could be presumed that a large number of workers brought down their families to the place of work. Hence, perhaps the improvement in the sex ratio in 1971. This presumption is supported by the fact that prior to 1961 this district was surplus in females. In

case of Puri district which had a surplus of female population in 1961, a phenomenal erosion of 27 points is observed during the last decade—a fluctuation that is not easily explained. It is expected that when detailed data on migration become available, they would throw some light on this rather unusual phenomenon. Other districts reveal a successive fall in the sex ratio in keeping with the general trend of the state.

You would notice that while 3 of the 13 districts of the state, viz., Ganjam, Kalahandi and Baudh-Khondmals have shown a favourable sex ratio in 1971, there has been a steady fall in the number of women which is common to almost all districts.

A Comparative Picture at the Tahsil level

Going down to the tahsil level we find that there are only 3 out of 103 tahsils in the state which have a sex ratio under 900. All others are above this mark. The three tahsils are Cuttack (847), Panposh (877) and Bhubaneswar (896). Cuttack tahsil has within its jurisdiction the city of Cuttack and the Chowdwar town, both of which have a large number of industries, business houses and offices. These towns have a predominance of males largely due to migration of workers from other areas.

Again the in-migration to these towns could be predominantly male-selective. Either the housing conditions in the urban centres of this tahsil do not permit most male workers to bring their women folk or that they prefer to visit their native places in neighbouring areas at frequent intervals. Panposh tahsil, in spite of having Rourkela within its jurisdiction, has a comparatively more favourable sex ratio. This may not mean a smaller proportion of male workers compared to Cuttack tahsil. It is likely that the Steel Town has by now attracted more female spouses on account of better housing facilities. The third tahsil in this category, Bhubaneswar has in its area the state's capital which employs a very large number of men. Many of them, specially belonging to the subordinate services may not have been provided with government quarters and the scope of hiring private houses is far too limited. It may be that they prefer to stay single and visit their families at home once in a while. These are some of the plausible reasons one can think of in absence of any qualitative data in this regard.

There are 36 tahsils which have a sex ratio above par. Chikiti tahsil in Ganjam district leads the tahsils in the entire state with a sex ratio of 1,092. Some other tahsils in the order they present surplus females are :

Patamundai tahsil	Cuttack district	1,075
Kodala tahsil	Ganjam district	1,074
Aul tahsil	Cuttack district	1,066
Ghumusur tahsil	Ganjam district	1,060
Aska tahsil	Ganjam district	1,054
Chatrapur tahsil	Ganjam district	1,045
Jagatsinghpur tahsil	Cuttack district	1,045

You will notice that out of the first eight places, Ganjam district claims 5 places. This is natural because this district has the highest sex ratio in the state. The sex composition in the tahsils of two female predominant districts, viz., Kalahandi and Baudh-Khondmals tends towards a balanced ratio. The surprise packet is provided by Cuttack district. While Cuttack tahsil has the lowest sex ratio (847) among the tahsils in the state, another tahsil of the district, viz., Patamundai situated within a distance of about 50 miles of sadar tahsil has recorded the second highest sex ratio in the state at 1,075 next to Chikiti tahsil (1,092) of Ganjam district. Two other tahsils of Cuttack again, viz., Aul (1,066) and Jagatsinghpur (1,045) have also shown high sex ratio. Other districts have no such surprises.

Difference in Sex Ratio between Rural and Urban Areas

So long we have been discussing the sex ratio in respect of composite areas, villages and towns taken together. Viewed separately,

the picture takes on a different colour altogether. Study the following table, which presents sex ratio for the state and districts by rural and urban as per 1971 Census.

Table 4.4

State/District	Sex Ratio	
	Rural	Urban
1	2	3
ORISSA	1,002	845
Sambalpur	995	849
Sundargarh	993	790
Konjhar	988	839
Mayurbhanj	991	840
Balasore	979	848
Cuttack	1,007	772
Dhenkanal	986	797
Baudh-Khondmals	1,009	865
Bolangir	999	923
Kalahandi	1,014	939
Koraput	985	931
Ganjam	1,054	955
Puri	1,000	788

We have seen that in the total population of our state there are 988 females for every 1,000 males. Broken down in terms of rural and urban, the rural areas account for a sex ratio of 1,002 while urban areas record a ratio of 845. Five districts come up with female-predominance in the rural areas. These are

Ganjam (1,054), Kalahandi (1,014), Baudh-Khondmals (1,009), Cuttack (1,007) and Puri (1,000). Bolangir district is near par with 999 females per 1,000 males in its rural areas. You might have noticed that Cuttack and Puri districts which showed an adverse sex ratio in general have now come up with a favourable sex ratio for their rural components. The sex ratio of the other districts is more favourable though not on par. The least number of females per 1,000 males are in Balasore district (rural) being 979.

The state sex ratio of the rural areas has since 1961 come down from 1,015 to 1,002 while interestingly, the urban areas have shown an improvement from 807 in 1961 to 845 in 1971. The increase in sex ratio in **urban areas** has been phenomenal in the district of Sundargarh from 630 in 1961 to 790 in 1971. Keonjhar district has recorded the next best—an increase by 59 points from 780 in 1961 to 839 in 1971. The other districts that have shown an improvement in the urban sex ratio are Sambalpur (45 points), Ganjam (4 points), Cuttack (27 points), Mayurbhanj (30 points) and Balasore (2 points). Of the other six districts, Bolangir and Puri have maintained their respective sex ratios at 923 and 788. In four districts, thus, there has been a fall in the sex ratio in their urban population. Baudh-

Khondmals district has recorded the 'highest fall (84 points) followed by Kalahandi (20 points), Dhenkanal (17 points) and Koraput (5 points).

You might have noticed that the female population in towns and cities is invariably less than their male population. Each district in our state is female-deficient as far as its towns and cities are concerned. The highest sex ratio for urban areas is recorded in 1971 by Ganjam (955) followed by Kalahandi (939) and the lowest by Cuttack (772) and Puri (788). In 1961 Census, the highest and lowest places in urban sex ratio were respectively occupied by Kalahandi and Sundargarh districts.

Sex Ratio in Some Towns of Orissa

Let us now see what the sex ratio is like in some selected categories of towns of Orissa. Take the cities first. Bhubaneswar city has a sex ratio of 724 which is the lowest among the four. Next comes Rourkela with a sex ratio of 757 followed by Cuttack (777) and Berhampur with a rather high figure of 931. The low sex ratio of Bhubaneswar is explained by the fact that a sizeable part of its population are single males who have probably left their families behind. Rourkela's economy is based on the steel plant and this city attracts many single male immigrants. This explains the relatively low sex

ratio of Rourkela. Cuttack is the premier city of the state and has a fair proportion of industries, government offices, educational institutions, business and commercial houses, etc. As such, it attracts a large number of males from other areas, which explains its low sex ratio. Berhampur city has perhaps been able to maintain a relatively high sex ratio because it is situated in a high sex ratio district and the in-migration that occurs in this city is not wholly male-selective.

Towns with an **industrial** background tend to have a low sex ratio because of the highly male-selective in-migration that they give rise to. Apart from Rourkela about which we have already discussed, the other industrial towns which can be cited in this connection are Chowdwar (646), Rajgangpur (861), Brajrajnagar (807), Hirakud (847) and Sunabeda (862).

While studying the sex ratio in towns, one comes across two towns which reveal an unusually low sex ratio. The first is Paradip which, with 464 females per 1,000 males has the lowest sex ratio for any town in the state. Paradip is a major port and is still in its early stage. It attracts a large number of workers from all parts of the country, but offers almost no housing facilities. It bears a striking resemblance to the prospecting towns of early

American history which were teaming with weather-beaten males. The next town is Angul which shows the second lowest sex ratio (596) among the towns of the state. Its inordinately low proportion of females might be due to the location of some important state level institutions which are highly male-selective such as the police training college, forest training school, teachers' training college, etc.

Further than what has been said above, it is difficult to come to any generalisation regarding a pattern of sex ratio in the towns of Orissa from the point of view of their size or from their predominant functional character. This is because Orissa with more than 90 per cent of its population still living in the villages is mainly rural in character and its economy is mostly peasant-agricultural. Therefore, a majority of the limited number of towns in the state have principally a rural flavour and there is, as yet, no appreciable polarisation of these towns into distinct functional categories on the basis of the occupational composition of the working force. Therefore, the sex ratio generally shown by other towns in the state is somewhat more favourable to the females than in the towns discussed above.

To recapitulate, ours is one of the few states in India having a sex ratio very favourable to females. Among the districts, Ganjam, Kalahandi and Baudh-Khondmals have a surplus of female population while Sundargarh and Balasore have the highest shortage. Viewed separately from rural and urban angles, Cuttack and Puri districts show a favourable sex ratio in their rural areas in addition to Ganjam, Kalahandi and Baudh-Khondmals. All districts are female-deficient in their urban areas, the worst being Cuttack and Puri districts in that order. Townwise, the worst shortage is in Paradip and Angul and this is due to special circumstances. Towns which have an industrial background seem to have fewer females.

Our state has the smallest shortage of women among all the states in India. But this should not make us complacent because the sex ratio is steadily coming down since the last 50 years. It is high time that the authorities took cognizance of the situation and initiated corrective measures to bring down female mortality by intensifying maternity and child welfare facilities on a bigger scale. Each one of us, on our part, should try to bring about a change in the outlook of villagers so that they shed their age-old prejudice and bestow greater care and attention on the women folk.

II

HOW OLD ARE WE ?

Age like sex is one of the most basic characteristics of a population. One can form a good idea of the history of population looking at its age composition. Age data have wide use. They are vital to the planners and administrators to formulate education and welfare programmes more precisely. To the life insurance business and for determining labour force they are invaluable.

Age Structure

Age at census is recorded in completed years. If a person is, say, 24 years and 11 months old on the day of enumeration, his age for the purpose of census shall be 24 years and not 25 years. From the age data so collected, the age distribution is obtained by grouping the males of the same age and the females of the same age separately at every age. The proportion of the population contained within the different age groups is known as age structure. A very common division of population is by three basic groups—young, adult and aged. Though the boundary between the groups varies to a certain extent from country to country, in India persons in the ages 0—14 are

included in the first group, those between 15—59 years in the second group, while the third group comprises persons aged 60 and above. In an economically less advanced country like India where the birth rate is high, the youthful group is predominantly large, as high as 40 per cent or above. In contrast, in advanced countries this proportion is much lower—between 20 to 30 per cent. The low proportion of children signifies that the birth rate in these countries has attained a low level. With low birth rates maintained over a long period of time the developed countries have a greater proportion of aged persons. In our country the aged group, viz., persons of the age of 60 and above is only 5.97 per cent of the population, whereas in developed countries like Sweden and United Kingdom the proportion in this age group is as high as 19 per cent or thereabout.

Adult group in the ages 15—59 is the cream of a nation. It is economically productive and biologically capable of reproduction. It is from this segment of population that workers are normally drawn. In more advanced countries the proportion of population in this age group is 60 per cent and above while in the less developed countries it is 55 per cent or even less. The comparable proportion of working population of our country as revealed in the 1971 Census is 51.99 per cent.

The young and aged population represent for the most part economically inactive proportions of the population. They are a burden on the working age group as well as on the economy of the country to which they belong. The proportion of the population in these two age groups to the population of working age gives an idea as to how many dependants there are for the working population to support. This proportion is spoken of as "dependency ratio". In a developing country like India the dependency ratio is high mainly due to a large proportion of dependent population of children which is a direct consequence of a high birth rate.

Sweden, one of the most advanced countries of the world has 20·82 per cent of its population in the youthful group, 59·52 per cent in the economically active group and 19·66 per cent in the aged group. United Kingdom is another country which is as favourably placed as Sweden. Compared with these countries our country has the inordinately high proportion of 42·02 per cent of its population in the younger age group, 51·99 per cent in the active age bracket and only 5·97 per cent in the older group of 60 years and above. The dependency ratio of our population is consequently about one, while it is around 0·7 in developed countries.

Dependency Ratio in Some Countries

In no country the working age group constitutes less than 50 per cent of the total population except in the economically backward and high fertility countries like Mexico, Pakistan (including the present Bangla Desh) and Philippines where it is somewhat less. It has reached a maximum of 65·38 per cent in the case of Japan, 59·52 per cent in Sweden, 58·91 per cent in Australia and 57·18 per cent in U. S. S. R. See Table 4.5 which presents the population of some important countries of the world in three broad age groups. With a larger proportion of economically active population in these countries and a shrinking base of children, a consequence of low birth rate, the dependency ratio is at a lower level.

Table 4.5

Name of country and year	Population in the age group of		
	0-14 years	15-59 years	60 years and above
1	2	3	4
United Kingdom 1970 (England and Wales)	11,579,500 (23·64)	28,243,500 (57·65)	9,165,000 (18·71)
France .. 1958	11,790,960 (23·74)	28,529,568 (57·46)	9,334,028 (18·80)
Sweden 1970	1,681,881 (20·82)	4,807,100 (59·52)	1,587,922 (19·66)

Table 4.5—*Concd.*

Name of country and year			Population in the age group of		
			0-14 years	15-59 years	60 years and above
1			2	3	4
U. S. A.	..	1970	57,900,052 (28'49)	116,629,588 (57'39)	28,682,286 (14'12)
Mexico	..	1970	22,361,425 (46'22)	23,301,781 (48'16)	2,718,341 (5'62)
Canada	.	1971	6,401,400 (29'52)	12,793,700 (59'01)	2,485,900 (11'47)
Australia	..	1970	3,619,917 (28'84)	7,394,061 (58'91)	1,537,729 (12'25)
New Zealand	..	1969	901,660 (32'10)	1,559,340 (55'52)	347,590 (12'38)
Japan	..	1970	24,751,300 (23'95)	67,566,200 (65'38)	11,038,200 (10'67)
Pakistan*	..	1961	40,178,518 (44'50)	44,717,335 (49'53)	5,386,821 (5'97)
Philippines	..	1968	16,805,000 (46'83)	17,592,000 (49'03)	1,486,000 (4'14)
U. A. R.	..	1960	11,109,748 (42'76)	13,296,320 (51'17)	1,578,033 (6'07)
U. S. S. R.	..	1970	74,710,000 (30'91)	138,227,000 (57'18)	28,514,000 (11'80)
Ghana	..	1960	2,996,506 (44'54)	3,398,793 (50'53)	331,516 (4'93)
INDIA	..	1971	230,253,987 (42'02)	284,886,839 (51'99)	32,692,765 (5'97)

(Figures in brackets indicate percentage to total population.)

Source : United Nations—Demographic Year Book, 1970 and 1971

* Includes the population constituting Bangla Desh.

Age Composition in Orissa

What picture does the age composition of our own state present against this background ? As the 1971 Census has revealed, the children in the ages 0—14 years in our state make 42·4 per cent of our population and the older population aged 60 years and above account for as little as 6 per cent, while a little over half the population—51·6 per cent constitute the working population (15—59). This is close enough to the all-India structure. Over eleven million in the working age-group of our state have to shoulder the responsibility of supporting a large part of as many persons in the young and the old age groups taken together. Normally for every person of working age there is another person who needs to be fed, clothed, educated or otherwise looked after. Don't think that even all these eleven million and odd persons have work to do—many of them might be unemployed. When, therefore, we observe that for every person in the working age in our state there is one other person to be fed and supported, we are only visualising the ideal situation.

Population in Districts in Broad Age groups

It may be instructive to examine the districtwise distribution of population according to broad age groups. The following table may be studied.

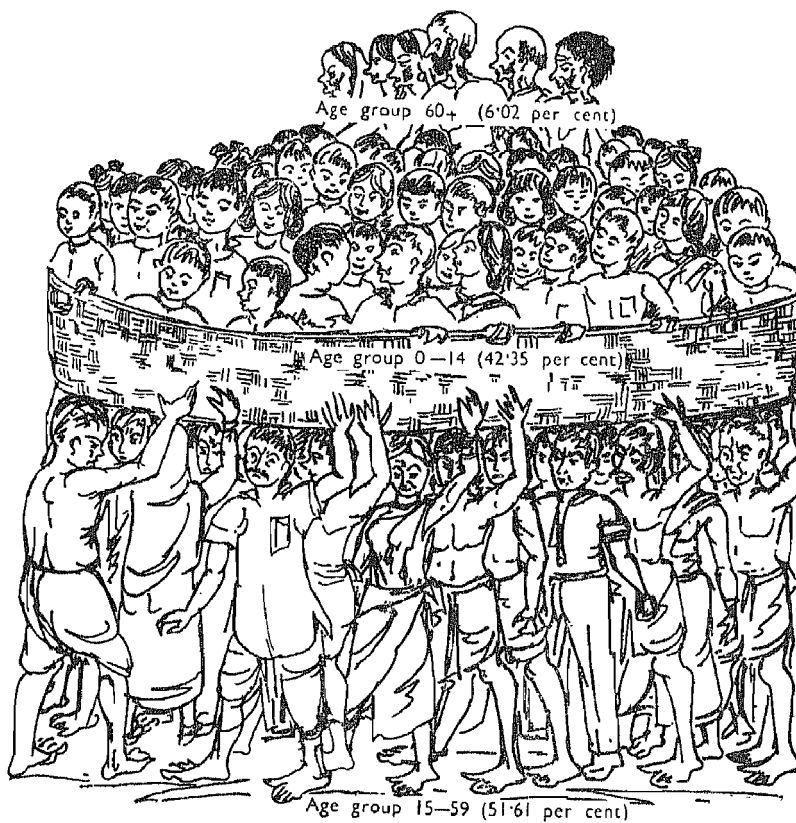
Table

State/District	Population	
	0—14 years	
	Population	Per cent to total population
1	2	3
ORISSA ..	9,294,564	42·4
Sambalpur ..	712,267	38·6
Sundargarh ..	444,337	43·1
Keonjhar ..	423,175	44·3
Mayurbhanj ..	628,680	43·8
Balasore ..	815,888	44·6
Cuttack ..	1,575,551	41·2
Dhenkanal ..	564,075	43·6
Baudh-Khondmals ..	258,470	41·6
Bolangir ..	516,138	40·9
Kalahandi ..	523,404	45·0
Koraput ..	869,976	42·6
Ganjam ..	1,003,088	43·7
Puri ..	959,515	41·0

in age group

15—59 years		60 years and above	
Population	Per cent to total population	Population	Per cent to total population
4	5	6	7
11,325,218	51·6	1,321,281	6·0
1,007,102	54·6	124,993	6·8
536,977	52·1	49,269	4·8
486,426	50·9	45,729	4·8
735,389	51·3	69,982	4·9
895,652	48·9	118,823	6·5
1,961,972	51·2	289,884	7·6
653,376	50·5	76,268	5·9
330,141	53·1	32,935	5·3
673,457	53·3	73,761	5·8
583,410	50·1	56,878	4·9
1,096,095	53·6	76,753	3·8
1,141,754	49·8	148,478	6·5
1,223,467	52·3	157,528	6·7

DEPENDENCY RATIO, ORISSA, 1971



We notice from the above table that the largest proportion of young population (in the age group 0—14 years) is come across in the district of Kalahandi, Balasore and Keonjhar in that order while a very low percentage is seen in the districts of Sambalpur, Bolangir and Puri. The lowest proportion of the youthful age group is in Sambalpur district: it is less than 40 per cent of the population.

Coming to the working age group, the district of Sambalpur again attracts our attention with the largest proportion of population (54·6 per cent) in this age group. The other districts which have a relatively high proportion of population in this age group are Koraput (53·6 per cent), Bolangir (53·3 per cent) and Baudh-Khondmals (53·1 per cent). The districts showing the lowest proportion of their population in this age group are Balasore (48·9 per cent) and Ganjam (49·8 per cent). These two districts have less than half of their population in this age group and as such, stand apart from the other districts. Kalahandi district with 50·1 per cent and Dhenkanal district with 50·5 per cent are the other districts whose proportion of population in the working age group is just about half.

Coming to the third age group, viz., 60 years and above, one would notice that five

districts, viz., Cuttack, Sambalpur, Puri, Balasore and Ganjam in that order have more than 6 per cent of their respective population in this age group. The lowest proportion of the population in this age group is found in Koraput, Sundargarh and Keonjhar districts. The proportion of Koraput district (3·8 per cent) in particular is much lower than in the other districts and points to the fact that a large proportion of persons in this district die before they reach the sixties.

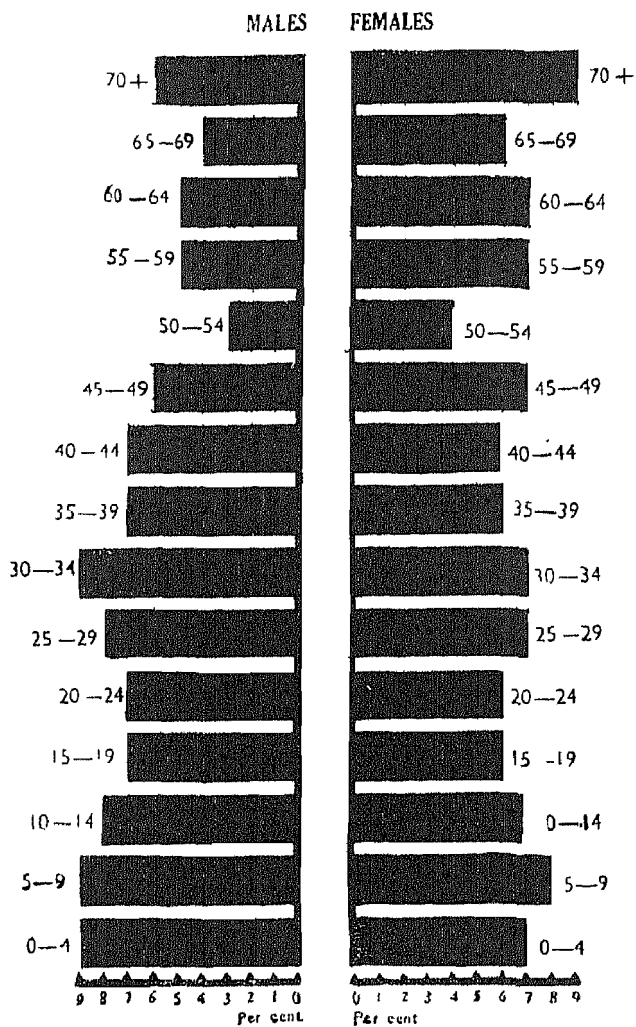
In the light of the foregoing, we may conclude that the age composition among the districts follows the state pattern by and large with the exception of Sambalpur district which shows distinct signs of making an improvement over the traditional age structure of under-developed areas.

What are Age-Pyramids ?

Looking at the age structure of different countries on the basis of three age groups, we have learnt some important lessons. It would be well for us now to acquaint ourselves with an interesting study of age composition known as age-pyramids. Some also call them population pyramids. An age-pyramid is a graphic illustration of the population of a given country or state. Age groups, generally at 5-year intervals, are arranged as

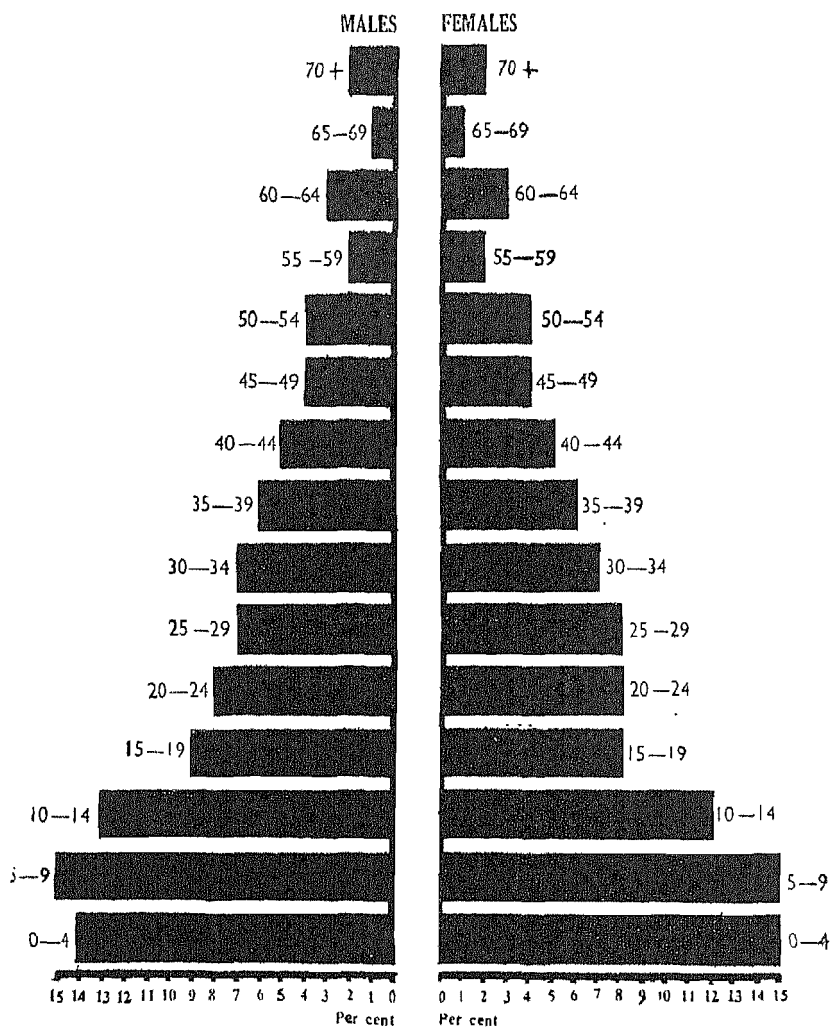
AGE-PYRAMID

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, 1969



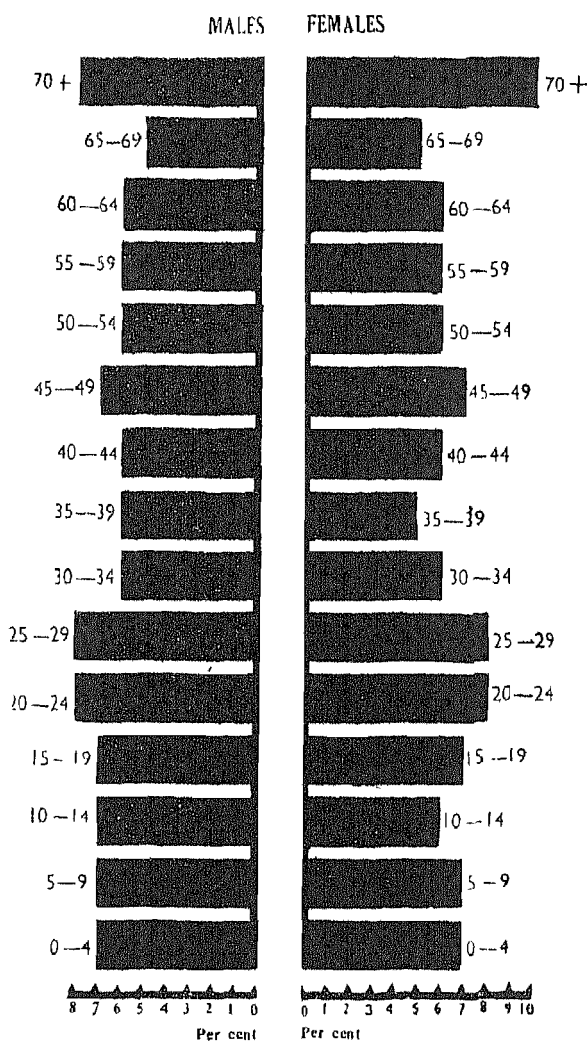
AGE-PYRAMID

INDIA, 1971



AGE-PYRAMID

SWEDEN, 1970



horizontal bars with persons of the youngest age group providing the base. The next age group comes above it and so on till the oldest age group is reached at the top. For facility of comparison, population pyramids in every country are drawn in a standard manner. Each age group is represented by one horizontal bar, which starts from the centre and extends each side. The male population is shown on the left side and the female population on the right. The bars are based on the total population accounted for by each age group. Under normal conditions the number of people in each age group tend to be less than the number in the preceding lower age group. This is the reason why the age structure of a population takes on the shape of a pyramid. Symmetry in a pyramid is possible only if there is balance in the sex ratio in each age group.

An age-pyramid conveys at a glance the entire construction of the age structure and at once emphasizes gross irregularities, if any. For example, you cannot fail to notice the gap in the middle left of the pyramid of Germany's population after the Second World War. This was due to the large scale deaths of her young men in the war. Two typical age-pyramids of India and Sweden are shown on pages 164 and 165. These indicate a 'young population'

and an 'old population' respectively. The former means that the youngsters form the bulk of India's population while the latter points to a higher proportion of persons in the old age group. The latter position, as you would have come to realise, is the result of low birth rate and low death rate in Sweden.

The final figures on quinquennial age groups as per 1971 Census are not yet available as the tabulation of data thereof is not yet complete. However, we are in possession of 1971 quinquennial age group figures for India and our state arrived at on the basis of the tabulation of 1 per cent samples drawn from the individual slips.

The following table gives the population break up of our state in 5-year age groups by sex :

Table 4.7

Age group	Population (in hundreds) from 1 per cent sample table	
	Males	Females
1	2	3
		-
All ages	110,165	108,955
0—4	15,837	15,815
5—9	17,268	17,268

Table 4.7—*Concl'd.*

Age group	Population (in hundreds) from 1 per cent sample table	
	Males	Females
1	2	3
10--14	13,173	12,462
15--19	9,238	8,705
20--24	7,363	8,010
25--29	8,016	8,828
30--34	7,267	7,573
35--39	7,400	6,630
40--44	6,080	5,444
45--49	4,847	4,353
50--54	4,539	4,154
55--59	2,676	2,628
60--64	2,806	3,108
65--69	1,298	1,306
70+	2,219	2,507
Age not stated	138	164

We have adopted these figures for constructing the age-pyramid of our state as well as that of India for 1971. It is hoped that the final figures may not make any significant difference to these age-pyramids.

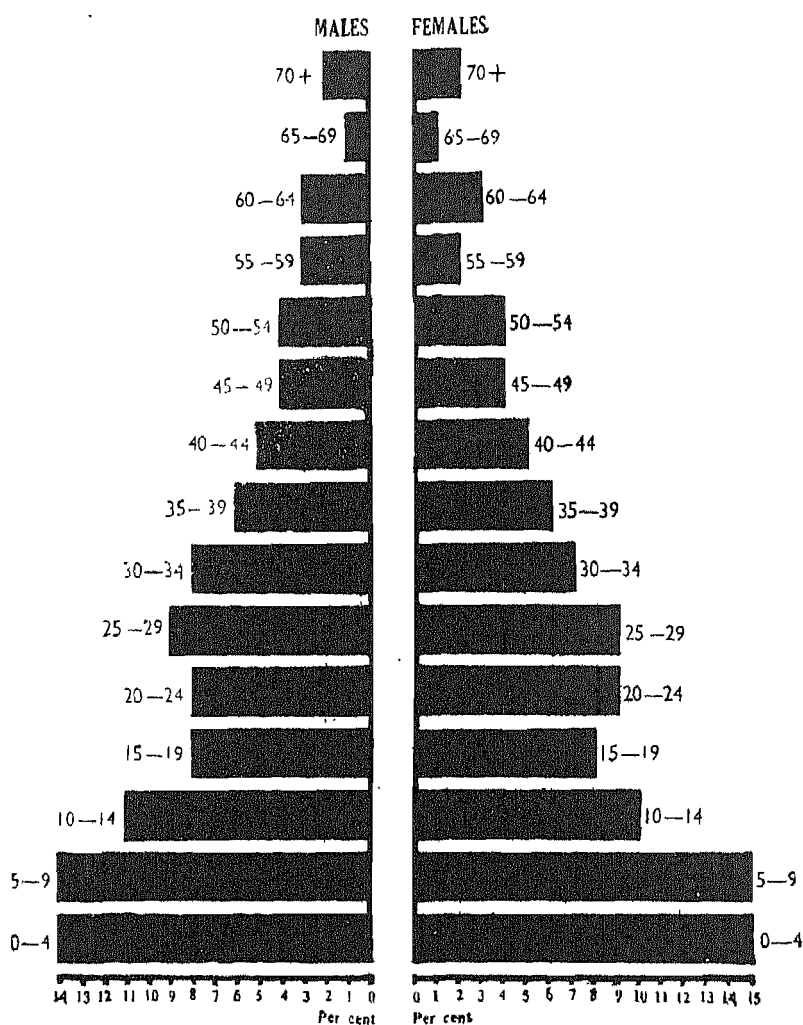
Compare the age-pyramids of our own state for the years 1961 and 1971 (See pages 170 and 171). You will notice that the age-pyramid of Orissa is symmetrical and presents a regular pyramidal structure. It is broad at the base and tapers upwards in a regular manner. This means that the population in younger age groups is the largest and the number is inverse in proportion as the population grows older and older. You would find practically no difference between the age-pyramids of our state for 1961 and 1971 because the proportion between the different age groups remains the same despite the increase in population in 1971.

Sex Differentials in Different Age Groups

We discussed earlier the importance of sex ratio in a population and also have analysed the sex ratio in the districts, tahsils and towns. The analysis was, however, restricted to the general population. It would be interesting if we now proceed to see how the sex ratio behaves when looked at by the three age groups. Study the Table 4.8.

AGE-PYRAMID

ORISSA, 1961



AGE-PYRAMID

ORISSA, 1971

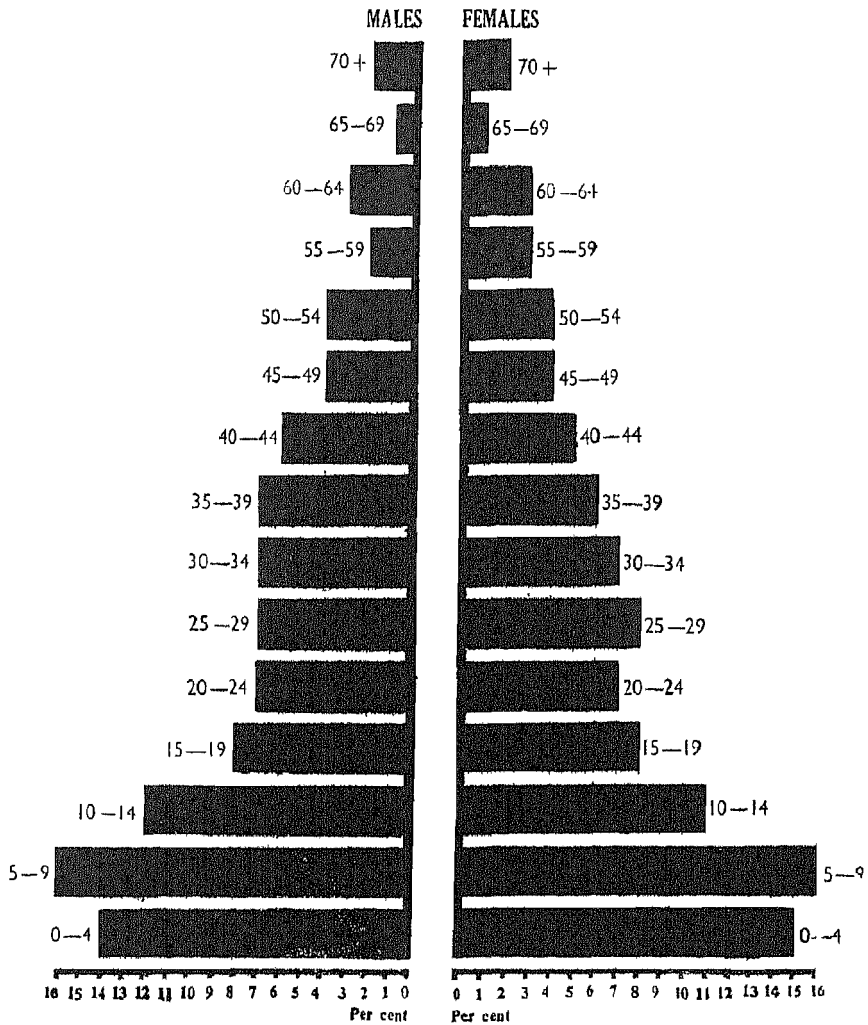


Table 4.8

State/District	Population in age group									
	0-14 years			15-59 years			60 years and above			
	Male	Female	Sex Ratio	Male	Female	Sex Ratio	Male	Female	Sex Ratio	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
ORISSA	4,668,772	4,625,792	991	5,734,340	5,590,878	975	636,035	685,246	1,077	
Sambalpur	356,327	355,940	999	517,316	489,786	947	59,450	65,543	1,102	
Sundargarh	224,411	219,926	980	283,875	253,102	892	22,467	26,802	1,193	
Keonjhar	210,690	212,485	1,009	251,541	234,885	934	20,978	24,751	1,180	
Mayurbhanj	317,779	310,901	978	373,346	362,043	970	30,726	39,256	1,278	
Balasore	409,503	406,385	992	458,851	436,801	952	59,901	58,922	984	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Cuttack	..	788,830	786,721	997	992,492	969,480	977	145,544	144,340	992
Dhenkanal	.	280,499	283,576	1,011	336,105	317,271	944	37,620	38,648	1,027
Baudh-Khondmals	.	128,971	129,499	1,004	165,467	164,674	995	15,735	17,200	1,093
Bolangir	.	258,642	257,496	996	340,450	333,007	978	34,671	39,090	1,127
Kalahandi	..	260,547	262,857	1,009	292,942	290,468	992	25,357	31,521	1,243
Koraput	..	439,063	430,913	981	555,972	540,123	971	36,526	40,227	1,101
Ganjam		509,553	493,535	969	545,717	596,037	1,092	67,629	80,849	1,195
Puri	.	483,957	475,558	983	620,266	603,201	972	79,431	78,097	983

You already know that in our total population of 21·94 million, 42·4 per cent or 9·29 million are in the youthful age group of 0—14 years. Of this, the boys are 4·67 million while the girls are 4·62 million. The sex ratio works out to 991. That is to say, for every 1,000 boys in this age group there are 991 girls. It comes as something of a surprise that the district of Ganjam which enjoys the highest sex ratio among the districts of our state, has a sex ratio of 969 in this age group which is not only far below the state sex ratio in this age group but also happens to be the lowest among all the districts. The districts which have a sex ratio above par are Dhenkanal (1,011), Keonjhar (1,009), Kalahandi (1,009) and Baudh-Khondmals (1,004).

In the next age group of 15—59, out of a population of 11·33 million (51·6 per cent) 5·74 million are males and 5·59 million females. This gives us a sex ratio of 975, which is 16 points lower than that in the previous age group. Ganjam is the only district which is surplus in females in this age group with a sex ratio of 1,092. One reason for this could be the migration of labour which is generally sex-selective. The district which has the highest shortage of females in this age group is Sundargarh with a sex ratio of 892. The reason for this, as suggested earlier, is that men of working age in many

Industrial and mining areas in this district, notably in and around Rourkela, remain single leaving their families behind.

It is the older age group (60 years and above) which has a preponderance of females. For the entire state the sex ratio is 1,077 in this age group. There are as many as 10 districts which have a high sex ratio ranging between 1,027 and 1,278. Puri (983), Cuttack (992) and Balasore (984) are the 3 districts which are short of females in this age group. Generally, in the higher age, the female has a lower death rate than the male. This has prompted a demographer of our country to remark that 'organically, woman is the stronger and not the weaker vessel'*. But this law does not appear to hold good in the case of Puri, Cuttack and Balasore districts, where apparently more women than men die as they get on in years. Mayurbhanj and Kalahandi stand first and second in sex ratio in this age group with 1,278 and 1,243 females per thousand males respectively.

To sum up, men marginally outnumber women in our state in the first two age groups. But women again marginally outnumber

* P.K. Wattal, F. R. S. S., F. R. E. S —The Population Problem in India, 1934

men in the older age group. The district of Ganjam has the lowest number of females in the first age group. In the second age group Sundargarh district lacks females most with a sex ratio of 892, while a similar dubious distinction is claimed by Puri district in the third age group with a sex ratio of 983. To Ganjam goes the credit of the highest sex ratio in the second age group, while Mayurbhanj claims similar credit in the third age group.

5

HOW MANY OF US CAN READ AND WRITE ?

HOW MANY can read and write, or in census parlance, how many are literates is a question as old as census. This is one of the first questions asked at the census from the time of its inception not merely in our country but in all census-taking countries of the world.

Now, what is literacy and who are considered literates ? Learning the 3 R's, did you say ? No, not the third R—'Rithmetic' in any case. You are not to give a test on your proficiency in addition, subtraction, multiplication or division. If you are just able to read and

write, you pass as literate. That is the definition given by the United Nations and adopted all the world over. By this standard, the population of some advanced countries is now 100 per cent literate. So far as this question is concerned, countries like U.K., Switzerland, Czechoslovakia, Austria, Australia and New Zealand have called it a day. Illiteracy having been almost wiped out, they do not have any question on literacy in their census.

In our country we have, however, set for ourselves a slightly more rigid test. In 1971 Census you were considered literate if you could read and write with understanding. Mark the words 'with understanding'. Ability merely to sign your name would not qualify you as a literate. You should be able to read with facility and write a simple letter. If you could merely read but could not write, you were marked as illiterate. Children up to 4 were treated as illiterate even if the child was going to school and had picked up reading and writing.

This test of ability to read and write a simple letter was adopted in all our previous censuses. If there is a slight variation in the definition adopted by different countries, it should not matter. All that is needed here is a rough indicator of the basic educational standard. No final definition of literacy is being attempted here.

Literacy rate in Some Countries of the World

May be, this will create some difficulty when we try to compare the degree of literacy between countries. Furthermore, in many countries of the world, literacy is computed for persons of 15 years of age and above, whereas in our country we do it for the population aged 5 years and above. Despite these limitations, a comparison of our performance with other countries in this field may be rewarding. See table below which gives the literacy rates of some countries of the world.

Table 5.1

Name of the country and year		Percentage of literates aged 15 and above to total population of that age group except where otherwise stated
1		2
U. S. A.	1959	97·8
Argentina	1960	91·4
Chile	1970	87·1
Sri Lanka	1963	75·5
Burma	1954	57·7
Indonesia	1961	39·0
Israel	1961	84·2 (14 years of age and over)

Table 5.1 - Concl'd.

Name of the country and year		Percentage of literates aged 15 and above to total population of that age group except where otherwise stated
1		2
Pakistan*	1961	18.8
Nepal	1961	8.8
Hungary	1963	97.4
Poland	1960	95.3 (14 years of age and over)
Greece	1961	80.4
U. S. S. R.	1959	98.5 (9—49 years of age)
People's Republic of Congo	1961	16.5
Lesotho	1966	58.6
Libyan Arab Republic	1964	21.6 (6 years of age and over)
Malawi	1966	22.1
Mauritius	1962	61.6 (13 years of age and over)
Uganda	1959	25.1 (16 years of age and over)
U. A. R.	1960	26.3
Iraq	1965	23.6
INDIA	1971	29.5 (All ages)

Source : 1. United Nations—Demographic Year Book, 1970 and 1971

2. Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India—Pocket
Book of Population Statistics, 1972

* Includes present Bangla Desh.

As an Indian you would not feel happy to learn that our country is among the lowest rungs of literacy. In Asia, only Pakistan, Iraq and Nepal have a lower rate of literacy. Many countries, whose 'backwardness' we take for granted are way ahead of India in the matter of literacy.

Looking at the world as a whole, one marks a tempo of increase in literacy in recent decades. While in 1930 about 40 per cent of the world's population was estimated to be literate, the figure is said to have risen to nearly 50 per cent by 1955 and is probably around 60 per cent at present.*

Literacy in Orissa : Comparison with Other States

For computing the degree of literacy of a population, infants in the age group 0—4 are always excluded. The data for this age group are still in the process of tabulation. When such data become available, the literacy rate computed on the basis of population excluding these infants would naturally go up. Meanwhile, tabulation on the basis of 1 per cent sample individual slips was undertaken at the all-India level to make an advance study of the trends. According to this estimation the literacy rate of our state is placed at 30.59 per cent and that for the country as a whole at 33.84 per cent.

*Glenn. T. Trewartha—A Geography of Population, World Patterns

While this may serve as a rough indication of the degree of literacy, final figures will be known only after complete tabulation. Moreover, such data on 1 per cent sample tabulation are not available for other states. Therefore, for the purpose of discussion in this chapter we will confine ourselves to the gross rates based on total population inclusive of this age group relating to our state and to other states of the country.

The gross literacy rate of our state to the total population inclusive of children in the age group 0—4 is 26.18 per cent according to 1971 Census. On the same basis it was 21.66 per cent in 1961.

This means that in 1961 roughly every fifth person in our state was literate while in 1971 it is about every fourth person. You would perhaps agree that the progress made in course of ten years is not much to write home about. As late as 1971, when America had already completed sending her fourth manned rocket to the moon, three persons among every four in Orissa were not in a position even to read the news !

If it is any consolation, the all-India figure 29.46 is not too reassuring either. While in our state nearly 74 out of every 100 persons do not know how to read and write,

the number of illiterate persons for the country as a whole is about 71, an improvement over Orissa of three persons in every 100.

Let us now take a quick look at the other states of India and see how they fare vis-a-vis our state. See table below which gives the general literacy of states (inclusive of 0—4 age group).

Table 5.2

Rank in literacy rate	Country/State	Percentage of literates to total population (including population in age group 0—4)
1	2	3
	INDIA	29.46
1	Kerala	60.42
2	Tamil Nadu	39.46
3	Maharashtra	39.18
4	Gujarat	35.79
5	Punjab	33.67
6	West Bengal	33.20
7	Manipur	32.91
8	Himachal Pradesh	31.96

Table 5.2—*Concl'd.*

Rank in literacy rate	Country/State	Percentage of literates to total population (including population in age group 0—4)
1	2	3
9	Mysore	.. 31.52
10	Tripura	.. 30.98
11	Meghalaya	.. 29.49
12	Assam *	.. 28.72
13	Nagaland	.. 27.40
14	Haryana	.. 26.89
15	Orissa	.. 26.18
16	Andhra Pradesh	.. 24.57
17	Madhya Pradesh	.. 22.14
18	Uttar Pradesh	.. 21.70
19	Bihar	.. 19.94
20	Rajasthan	.. 19.07
21	Jammu and Kashmir	.. 18.58

* Includes Mizor district which now forms the Union Territory of Mizoram.

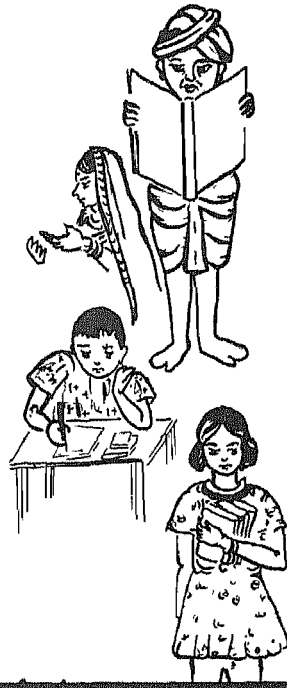
Source: Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India—Pocket Book of Population Statistics, 1972

LITERACY IN INDIA, 1971

JAMMU AND KASHMIR
 RAJASTHAN
 BIHAR
 UTTAR PRADESH
 MADHYA PRADESH
 ANDHRA PRADESH
 ORISSA
 HARYANA
 NAGALAND
 ASSAM
 MEGHALAYA
 TRIPURA
 MYSORE
 HIMACHAL PRADESH
 MANIPUR
 WEST BENGAL
 PUNJAB
 GUJARAT
 MAHARASHTRA
 TAMIL NADU
 KERALA
 INDIA

Per cent

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70



You will notice that way ahead is the State of Kerala with a literacy figure of 60·42 per cent; other states are nowhere near. Tamil Nadu with 39·46 per cent and Maharashtra with 39·18 per cent come way behind in the second and third positions. Gujarat (35·79 per cent), Punjab (33·67 per cent), West Bengal (33·20 per cent), Manipur (32·91 per cent), Himachal Pradesh (31·96 per cent), Mysore (31·52 per cent) and Tripura (30·98 per cent) are the other seven states which have a literacy figure of over 30 per cent but below 36 per cent. All the other states have a literacy rate of less than 30 per cent, the most backward being Jammu and Kashmir (18·58 per cent) and Rajasthan (19·07 per cent). Our own state is 15th in the list with 26·18 per cent. Nevertheless we are in the distinguished company of such states as Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar which occupy still lower berths.

Growth of Literacy among States

It might be instructive to compare and see how literacy has grown during the last two decades in the country generally and in each of the states. See Table 5.3.

Table 5.3

Country/State		Rate of growth of literacy (per cent)		
		1951-61 1961-71 1951-71		
		1	2	3
INDIA	..	44.09	22.65	76.72
Andhra Pradesh	..	61.76	15.95	87.56
Assam*	..	N. A.	4.55	N. A.
Bihar	..	50.82	8.37	63.44
Gujarat	..	31.82	17.54	54.94
Haryana	..	N. A.	34.92	N. A.
Himachal Pradesh	..	N. A.	50.33	N. A.
Jammu and Kashmir	..	N. A.	68.45	N. A.
Kerala	..	15.11	28.96	48.45
Madhya Pradesh	..	74.80	29.25	125.92
Maharashtra	..	42.68	31.39	87.46
Manipur	..	N. A.	8.19	N. A.
Meghalaya	..	N. A.	9.59	N. A.
Mysore	..	31.61	24.00	63.32
Nagaland	..	N. A.	52.99	N. A.
Orissa	..	37.09	20.87	65.70

Table 5.3—*Concl'd.*

Country/State	Rate of growth of literacy (per cent)		
	1951-61	1961-71	1951-71
1	2	3	4
Punjab ..	N. A.	25.92	N. A.
Rajasthan ..	70.90	25.38	114.27
Tamil Nadu ..	51.01	25.63	89.71
Tripura ..	N. A.	53.06	N. A.
Uttar Pradesh ..	63.33	23.02	100.93
West Bengal ..	22.00	13.39	38.33

N. A.=Not Available

* Includes Mizo district which now forms the Union Territory of Mizoram

Source : 1. Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India—Paper 1 of 1971—Supplement—Provisional Population Totals for 1961 literacy rates of the states, and Pocket Book of Population Statistics, 1972 for 1971 literacy rates for all the states and for 1951, 1961 and 1971 literacy rates of India

2. Part I-A(i), Orissa (1961 census) for 1951 literacy rates

When the 1951 Census was taken, the country had an overall literacy rate as low as 16.67 per cent. The next ten years witnessed a rather remarkable growth of literacy and the 1961 Census showed the impressive figure of 24.02 per cent at the all-India level an improvement of 44.09 per cent over 1951.

Looking at the performance of individual states during this period (1951—61) we find that the highest growth was recorded by Madhya Pradesh (74·80 per cent) and Rajasthan (70·90 per cent). Among other states which gave a good account of themselves are Uttar Pradesh (63·33 per cent), Andhra Pradesh (61·76 per cent) and Tamil Nadu, then known as Madras (51·01 per cent). Note that the most advanced states in the country in the matter of literacy, viz., Kerala and West Bengal in that order recorded the lowest growth. This might be due to the fact that the scope for increase in these two states was less compared to other states in view of the relatively high degree of literacy already attained by them. The growth rate of literacy of 37·09 per cent recorded by our own state was one of the lowest.

The next decade, viz., 1961—71 is not particularly distinguished for the growth of literacy. On all-India level, the growth of 22·65 per cent is hardly half the growth recorded for the previous decade. Statewise, Jammu and Kashmir has recorded the most impressive increase with 68·45 per cent. Next come Tripura (53·06 per cent), the new state of Nagaland (52·99 per cent) and Himachal Pradesh (50·33 per cent). The growth recorded by other states including ours (20·87

per cent) is, with the exception of Kerala, invariably lower than the rate achieved in the preceding decade. The performance of Assam (4·55), Manipur (8·19) and Bihar (8·37) appears to be particularly poor.

It is clear that the growth of literacy in the first decade after Independence, though not too impressive in itself, was much higher than that in the next decade. Taking both decades together, that is, the 20-year period from 1951 to 1971, the all-India growth is 76·72 per cent over that of 1951. Statewise, only three states, viz., Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh have been able to double their literate population. Tamil Nadu with 89·71 per cent, Andhra Pradesh with 87·56 per cent and Maharashtra with 87·46 per cent have also turned out fairly good performances. The growth recorded by our own state has been none-too-good at 65·70 per cent over this period.

Literacy among Male and Female Population in our State

Let us now discuss the literacy among our male and female population. The following table brings out the position clearly.

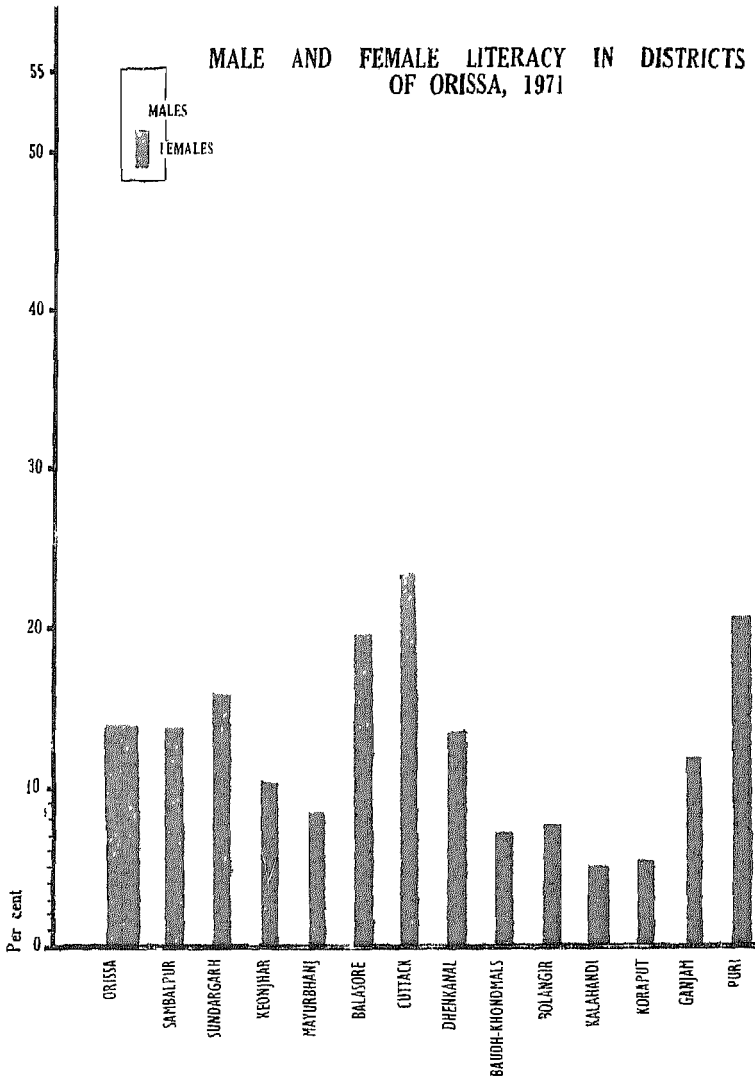
Table 5.4

	Male	Female	Total
Population ..	11,041,083	10,903,532	21,944,615
Literate population ..	4,227,806	1,517,593	5,745,399
Percentage of literate population to the total Male/Female population ..	38.29	13.92	26.18

The **literate males** are just a little over a third of the total male population of the state. In other words, for every single literate man in Orissa there are nearly two illiterate men. Even this ratio does not hold good for all areas uniformly. Concentrations of literate men are mostly to be found in cities and towns while the rural areas have pockets of abject illiteracy. In 1961, the proportion of literate men to the total male population was 34.7 per cent (inclusive of 0—4 age group). Thus, the improvement in male literacy over the past decade has not been as good as in the decade 1951—1961.

The outlook is still more discouraging for **women**. 1951 Census showed a ridiculously low literacy rate of 4.52 per cent

MALE AND FEMALE LITERACY IN DISTRICTS OF ORISSA, 1971



among the females of Orissa. (The figure includes the 0—4 age group). During the next 10 years, however, through vigorous efforts put forth under the five-year Plans, female literacy increased to 8.65 per cent. In terms of growth rate, this increase was splendid. Female literacy during this decade nearly doubled itself (91.37 per cent increase). In absolute terms, however, the growth was not so spectacular. With all this progress made in the preceding 10 years there was just about 1 literate woman among every 10 in 1961. In 1971 the percentage has improved from 8.65 to 13.92. Out of 10,903,532 females, living in our state, only 1,517,593 know how to read and write in 1971. This means that out of every 10 women in our state, over 8 (8.61 women to be exact) are still un-lettered. This, as you would observe, is really a very very marginal improvement over the 1961 figure. This shows that there is a very large segment of the female population which still wallows in the darkness of ignorance. If we really mean to make our mark as a civilized nation, we must seriously get down to the task of spreading the light of literacy and education among the nearly nine and a half million ignorant mothers and sisters in our state. A challenging task indeed !

Literacy among School-going Age group and Adults

How many of the boys who are in the school-going age are actually literate and what proportion of the adults know the two R's ? We are not yet in possession of the age-groupwise data on literacy for the 1971 Census to undertake such an examination. These figures will be available after the full processing of census data. Meanwhile, to get a broad idea of the trends, advance tabulation of data derived from 1 per cent sample individual slips has been made at the all-India level. According to this estimation literacy among the children in the school age (5—14) in our state is 30.25 per cent as against the comparable percentage of 26.31 in 1961. Ten years earlier, in 1951, the proportion was an abysmal 9.20 per cent. We have no doubt done remarkably well during the last 20 years improving the growth rate by 229 per cent over 1951. But with all this performance, the fact remains that over two-thirds of our children under 15 (4,197,200*) do not know how to read and write. This only brings out the magnitude of the leeway that has to be made up.

Similarly, among adults (aged 15 and above) the state of literacy in our state is

*Figure based on 1 per cent sampling

at the same low level. The percentage is 30·17 in 1971 according to 1 per cent sample tabulation as against 24·82 in 1961 and 11·56 in 1951. As in the case of school-going age children so also among adults, the proportion of illiterates is around 70 per cent of their respective population as per 1971 Census.

Literacy in Rural and Urban areas of Orissa

We may now turn to the rural-urban differential in the rates of literacy. The following table broadly indicates the literacy rates in the rural and urban areas of the state as per 1971 Census.

Table 5.5

	Rural	Urban	Total
Population ..	20,099,220	1,845,395	21,944,615
Literate population ..	4,841,184	904,215	5,745,399
Percentage of literate population to the total rural/urban population ..	24·09	49·00	26·18

Literacy in Rural areas

While the overall literacy rate for our state stands at 26·18 per cent, the rate for the rural population is somewhat less with 24·09

per cent. Out of the total rural population of just over 20 million persons, less than one-fourth or only 4·84 million are literate. The literacy rate for the rural men is 36·14 per cent which is 2 points less than the overall rate of male literacy of Orissa (including urban men). Similarly the literacy among rural women is 12·06 per cent against the general rate of female literacy of 13·92 per cent.

The highest proportion of rural literates is claimed by Cuttack district with 34·73 per cent of its total rural population. Balasore district with 33·02 per cent and Puri district with 32·96 per cent follow closely. To Koraput district goes the dubious distinction of having the lowest percentage of rural literacy (8·02). Kalahandi with 12·60 per cent, Mayurbhanj with 17·00 per cent, Bolangir with 17·99 per cent are among the districts which have a low proportion of rural literates.

So far as **rural literacy among men** is concerned, Cuttack district again claims the first place with a proportion of 48·24 per cent while the second place goes to Puri district with 47·79 per cent. Balasore district comes third with 46·97 per cent. The only other district that has recorded a proportion of above 40 per cent in this category is Dhenkanal (41·15 per cent), whose general rural literacy is only 26·88 per cent. In this category also,

Koraput district presents a miserable proportion with 12.98 per cent. The other districts which have a low proportion of rural male literates are Kalahandi (21.70 per cent), Mayurbhanj (26.84 per cent) and Sundargarh (29.06 per cent). The rest of the districts have over 30 per cent. Baudh-Khondmals, one of the backward districts of the state has recorded a high figure of 31.81 per cent of male literacy in its rural area which seems to be a happy augury.

The picture of **female literacy in the rural areas** of the districts is far worse. Koraput (2.97 per cent), Kalahandi (3.63 per cent), Bolangir (5.75 per cent), Baudh-Khondmals (5.95 per cent), Mayurbhanj (7.08 per cent), Keonjhar (8.92 per cent), Ganjam (8.95 per cent) and Sundargarh (9.77 per cent) which together comprise about two-thirds of the districts in the state are still in the digital percentage realm. Cuttack is the only district which has a proportion of over twenty per cent (21.32). Balasore comes second with 18.77 per cent and Puri third with 18.15 per cent. This means that in the villages of 8 backward districts mentioned above there is not even one literate woman among ten. Cuttack district has two while Balasore and Puri districts have neraly two literate women each among every ten in the rural areas.

Literacy in Urban areas

The outlook is somewhat better in the urban sector. The general literacy rate for urban areas in Orissa is 49·00 per cent. The rate among the urban males is nearly 60 per cent (59·94 per cent) while that among urban females is 36·05 per cent.

Considering the **urban male** literacy among the districts, we find that the showing is generally satisfactory. The districts which claim a proportion of over 60 per cent are Puri (66·45), Cuttack (65·66), Baudh-Khondmals (64·99), Mayurbhanj (64·49) and Dhenkanal (61·23) in that order. Incidentally, you may have noticed that Cuttack district has yielded its pre-eminence to Puri district in this category. The rate in all other districts varies between 50 per cent and 60 per cent, the exception being Keonjhar district which has a proportion of 48·66 per cent.

How literate is the **urban woman** of Orissa ? The position is certainly much better than her performance for the entire state or for the rural areas. In this sector the first position again is claimed by Puri district with a percentage of 45·59. Cuttack district with 43·51 per cent and Mayurbhanj district with 42·90 per cent come second and third respectively and happen to be the only

other districts to have a percentage of over 40. Balasore district, whose general literacy is among the best in the state, is left behind with 33·51 per cent only. The rest of the districts, barring Koraput, Kalahandi and Keonjhar, show a proportion which varies between 30 and 35 per cent. At the other extreme, Keonjhar has the lowest proportion with 23·60 per cent. Kalahandi comes next with 24·52 per cent of its urban female population followed by Koraput (27·82 per cent).

A statement showing literacy rates by total, rural and urban and by sex for the state and districts is given at the end of this chapter as Appendix I.

Literacy in Some Towns of Orissa

Having seen that literacy among the urban population is generally high compared to the rural, we may now take a cross-section of the towns in Orissa besides the four cities and study the literacy rates.

Of the four cities, Bhubaneswar, the capital of the state which abounds in government offices stands first with a rate as high as 62·23 per cent and happens to be the only city to have a literacy rate exceeding 60 per cent. Cuttack, the principal city of the state comes next with a literacy rate of 58·25 per cent.

while Rourkela steel city (54.37 per cent) and Berhampur (51.00 per cent) come third and fourth respectively.

The towns mentioned in the following table would perhaps serve as a cross-section for the purpose of our study. The literacy rate (%) has been mentioned against each.

Table 5.6

Service town	Industrial town	Primary activity town	Transport town
1	2	3	4
Burla (53.74)	Brajrajnagar (44.35)	Deogarh (44.49)	Paradip (47.32)
Sundargarh (52.33)	Rajgangpur (42.90)	Jaleswar (43.14)	..
Baripada (57.61)	Rourkela Steel Town (54.37)	Banki (49.00)	..
Dhenkanal (52.96)	Chowdwar (53.68)	Bhuban (34.71)	..
Angul (68.91)	..	Junagarh (28.38)	..
Phulbani (51.65)	.	Koraput (34.64)	..

Table 5.6 — *Concl.*

Service town	Industrial town	Primary activity town	Transport town
1	2	3	4
Bolangir (49·30)	..	Hinjili (36·73)	..
Bhawaniputna (45·53)	..	..	..
Chatrapur (56·18)	.	.	.
Puri (52·06)	.	.	..
Bhubaneswar (62·23)	..	..	..
Nayagarh (68·19)	..	.	..

Paradip, the only town functionally classified as transport town has a literacy rate of 47·32 per cent, which is rather on the low side. This is perhaps due to the large number of unskilled and illiterate labourers in this

town. Most of the service towns are predominantly inhabited by population working in government offices and business offices. It is, therefore, natural that the literacy rate in such towns should be high compared to towns of other classifications. While considering service towns, what arrests our attention is the very high literacy rate shown by Angul (68·91 per cent) and Nayagarh (68·19 per cent), the highest rates among all the towns of the state. The former's literacy rate is on account of the location of the police training college, the forest training school and a few other institutions. Nayagarh is a subdivisional headquarters town and Baripada (57·61 per cent) a district headquarters town. Both were the capital towns of two feudatory states. The high literacy rate shown by them could be the result of historical processes. The same to a certain extent could be said of Dhenkanal (52·96 per cent), Sundargarh (52·33 per cent) and Bolangir (49·30 per cent)—all district headquarters towns and capitals of ex-states. Chatrapur (56·18 per cent), Puri (52·06 per cent) and Phulbani (51·65 per cent) also happen to be district headquarters towns, which explains their high literacy rate.

Among the four industrial towns, no common trend can be detected. A literacy rate exceeding 50 per cent is seen in Rourkela

and Chowdwar, the two towns which on account of the sophisticated nature of their industries have more literate workers and a larger number of persons employed in institutions like schools, hospitals, business houses, etc. The literacy rate in Brajrajnagar and Rajgangpur is lower because of a larger segment of illiterate unskilled labourers as compared to Rourkela and Chowdwar. Rajgangpur also has a sizeable tribal population.

We now come to the towns classified as 'primary activity' towns. Such towns consist of workers mostly engaged in agriculture and allied occupations and as such, still have rural characteristics despite their being treated as towns. On a study of the literacy of towns included in this category in the statement above, we find that the only district headquarters town which still remains in the primary activity category is Koraput with a low literacy rate of 34.64 per cent. Banki, Deogarh and Jaleswar have a literacy rate exceeding 40 per cent while the lowest literacy rate in this category of towns and indeed among all the towns in the state, is found in Junagarh. For literacy rates obtaining in all towns of Orissa, refer to the statement (Appendix II) given at the end of this chapter.

Literacy in the Districts and Tahsils of the State

Districts

Let us now review the literacy situation in the districts of our state. In the following table is given the degree of literacy in percentage for the districts as per 1961 and 1971 censuses. (The districts are arranged according to their ranking in 1971.)

Table 5.7

State/District	Literacy rate (per cent)		Rate of growth of literacy (1961—1971)
	1971	1961	
1	2	3	4
ORISSA ..	26·18	21·66	20·87
Cuttack ..	36·43	29·82	22·17
Puri ..	35·34	29·49	19·84
Balasore ..	33·71	29·49	14·31
Dhenkanal ..	27·76	23·45	18·38
Sambalpur ..	27·12	22·93	18·27
Sundargarh ..	26·47	19·71	34·30
Ganjam ..	24·42	21·32	14·54

Table 5.7—*Concl'd.*

State/District	Literacy rate (per cent)		Rate of growth of literacy (1961—1971)
	1971	196	
1	2	3	4
Keonjhar ..	21.25	17.66	20.33
Bolangir .	19.92	14.59	36.53
Baudh-Khondmals .	19.79	17.69	11.87
Mayurbhanj ..	18.05	14.18	27.29
Kalahandi ..	13.85	11.51	20.33
Koraput .	10.58	8.14	29.98

It would be seen that in 1971 the coastal districts of Cuttack, Puri and Balasore head the list with a literacy rate exceeding 33 per cent while Dhenkanal, Sambalpur and Sundargarh follow in that order. These six districts have a literacy rate which is above the state average, while the rest of the seven districts are below it. The districts of Koraput, Kalahandi, Mayurbhanj and Baudh-Khondmals are the least literate in the state, the rate of Koraput and Kalahandi districts being particularly poor.

We have seen that the overall literacy in our state registered an improvement from 21.66 per cent in 1961 to 26.18 per cent in 1971 a growth rate of 20.87 per cent. What is the performance of the districts ? Study column 4 of the above table. Bolangir district with a growth rate of 36.53 per cent and Sundargarh district with a growth rate of 34.30 per cent have made the most rapid strides in improving their literacy during last 10 years and are the only two districts to show a growth rate exceeding 30 per cent. The other districts in which literacy has registered a fair growth are Koraput, Mayurbhanj and Cuttack. The district of Boudh-Khondmals has been the slowest in picking up literacy (11.87 per cent). Among the coastal districts of Cuttack, Puri and Balasore which have the highest literacy rate among the districts, while the growth rate of Cuttack district (22.17 per cent) is higher than the state average and that of Puri just below it (19.84 per cent), the performance of Balasore over the last decade is far too low at 14.31 per cent.

Tahsils

Going further down to the level of tahsil, do we come across any surprises or do they follow the pattern of their respective districts ?

Generally, districts which have a high percentage of literacy also contribute tahsils of high literacy concentration. Out of 103 tahsils in the state there are 37 tahsils showing a literacy figure of 30 per cent and above.

The tahsils occupying the first 11 positions in the state with their rate of literacy are shown below.

Table 5.8

Name of Tahsil	Literacy rate (per cent)
1	2
Cuttack	.. 48.26
Bhubaneswar	.. 43.85
Aul	.. 39.12
Kendrapara	.. 38.48
Patamundai	.. 38.22
Salepur	.. 37.39

Table 5.8—*Concl'd.*

Name of Tahsil	Literacy rate (per cent)
1	2
Kujang	.. 37.15
Athgarh	.. 36.37
Khurda	.. 36.26
Jagatsinghpur	.. 36.11
Bhadrak	.. 36.06

You would notice that only 2 tahsils, viz., Cuttack and Bhubaneswar have a literacy rate of over 40 per cent. A second point of interest is that the Cuttack district claims 8 tahsils in the above list while Puri claims 2. Angul and Nayagarh towns have recorded the highest literacy rates among the towns of the state. But the tahsils of the same name recorded only 28.00 per cent and 32.71 per cent respectively which are not anywhere near the performance of the first 10.

At the opposite end, there are 10 tahsils which record a literacy rate below 11 per cent. These are shown below.

Table 5.9

Name of Tahsil	Literacy rate (per cent)
1	2
Kashipur	.. 4.19
Umarkot	.. 7.01
Motu	.. 7.73
Koraput	.. 9.26
Nowrangapur	.. 9.71
Kotpad	.. 10.33
Boriguma	.. 10.41
Nandapur	.. 10.62
Bissamcuttack	.. 10.81
Malkangiri	.. 10.99

It must have struck you that all these 10 tahsils are situated in only one district, viz., Koraput. The literacy rate of Kashipur, Umarkot and Motu tahsils is most miserable and perhaps would compare with the lowest literacy rates in the world. Incidentally, the other low literacy districts of Kalahandi, Mayurbhanj and Baudh-Khondmals have tahsils with a literacy rate varying between 12 and 25. The literacy rate in the tahsils of the other districts closely follows the pattern of the districts and does not throw up any surprises.

Having surveyed the literacy scene in our state in some detail, we may now ponder over a few thoughts that are now uppermost in our minds. Literacy rate in our state is among the lowest in the country. The position obtaining in the rural areas is distressingly poor, particularly female literacy. The literacy in the school-going age group and among adults is close to the state average. The only redeeming feature in an otherwise bleak picture is the increasing rate of literacy in the urban areas.

I cannot do better than conclude this chapter with the words of Mr. M. W. Yeatts, Census Commissioner of India in 1941, whose view is perhaps more topical to-day than ever before :

"A democratic system and a mainly illiterate population go ill together and, in some cases, are very nearly a contradiction. So long as a man cannot read for himself, he can form his judgements outside his own field of experience only from what he is told. Hence the enormous powers laid in the hands of the leaders, the bulk of whose followers are uninstructed."

APPENDIX

Percentage of literate persons by sex in total, rural and urban areas

State/District	Percentage of		
	Total		
	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4
ORISSA ..	26·18	38·29	13·92
Sambalpur ..	27·12	40·51	13·40
Sundargarh ..	26·47	36·67	15·63
Keonjhar ..	21·25	32·37	9·88
Mayurbhanj ..	18·05	27·97	8·00
Balasore ..	33·71	47·50	19·52
Cuttack ..	36·43	49·80	22·87
Dhenkanal ..	27·76	42·03	13·16
Baudh-Khondmals ..	19·79	32·93	6·70
Bolangir ..	19·92	32·28	7·48
Kalahandi ..	13·85	23·19	4·61
Koraput ..	10·58	16·11	4·95
Ganjam ..	24·42	37·76	11·62
Puri ..	35·34	49·81	20·54

1

separately, 1971 (including population in 0-4 age group)

literate and educated persons

Rural			Urban		
Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
5	6	7	8	9	10
24.09	36.14	12.06	49.00	59.94	36.05
24.28	37.75	10.75	47.87	59.23	34.50
19.45	29.06	9.77	49.63	59.24	37.45
20.04	31.03	8.92	37.23	48.66	23.60
17.00	26.84	7.08	54.63	64.49	42.90
33.02	46.97	18.77	45.75	56.12	33.51
34.73	48.24	21.32	56.01	65.66	43.51
26.88	41.15	12.41	48.89	61.23	33.40
18.82	31.81	5.95	49.51	64.99	31.62
17.99	30.22	5.75	46.08	59.09	31.98
12.60	21.70	3.63	38.37	51.37	24.52
8.02	12.98	2.97	39.39	50.17	27.82
21.57	34.86	8.95	46.74	59.39	33.50
32.96	47.79	18.15	57.26	66.45	45.59

APPENDIX II

Percentage of literate persons in the towns of Orissa, 1971 (including population in 0-4 age group)

Name of District/Town		Literacy rate
1		2
Sambalpur District		
1. Sambalpur	M	52·07
2. Brajrajnagar	N. A. C.	44·35
3. Jharsuguda	M	50·39
4. Bargarh	M	51·41
5. Burla	N. A. C.	53·74
6. Hirakud	N. A. C.	48·62
7. Barpali	C	36·51
8. Deogarh	M	44·49
9. Padampur	N. A. C.	43·05
10. Kuchinda	N. A. C.	40·03
11. Govindpur	C	35·40
Sundargarh District		
1. Rourkela Steel Township	N. A. C.	54·37
2. Rourkela Civil Township	N. A. C.	51·05
3. Birmitrapur	M	29·64

APPENDIX II—*Contd.*

Name of District/Town		Literacy rate
1		2
Sundargarh District—<i>Concd</i>		
4. Rajgingpur	M	42·90
5. Sundargarh	M	52·33
Keonjhar District		
1. Barbil	M	31·51
2. Keonjhar	M	46·44
3. Joda	N. A. C.	28·84
4. Anandapur	C	54·07
Mayurbhanj District		
1. Baripada	M	57·61
2. Rairangpur	N. A. C.	47·02
Balasore District		
1. Balasore	M	51·24
2. Bhadrak	N. A. C.	40·18
3. Chandbali	C	44·10
4. Jaleswar	N. A. C.	43·14
Cuttack District		
1. Cuttack	M	58·25
2. Chowdwar	M	53·68

APPENDIX II—*Contd.*

Name of District/Town		Literacy rate
1		2
Cuttack District—<i>Concl'd.</i>		
3. Kendrapara	M	45·54
4. Jajpur	M	48·58
5. Jajpur Road	N. A. C.	46·94
6. Banki	N. A. C.	49·00
7. Athgarh	C	52·79
8. Paradip	C	47·32
Dhenkanal District		
1. Dhenkanal	M	52·96
2. Talcher	M	40·39
3. Bhuban	C	34·71
4. Angul	N. A. C.	68·91
Baudh-Khondmals District		
1. Phulbani	N. A. C.	51·65
2. Baudh	N. A. C.	46·47
Bolangir District		
1. Bolangir	M	49·30
2. Titlagarh	N. A. C.	49·40

APPENDIX II *Contd.*

Name of District/Town		Literacy rate
1		2
Bolangir District—<i>Concd.</i>		
3. Kantabanji	N. A. C.	46·92
4. Patnagarh	N. A. C.	39·77
5. Sonepur	M	43·10
6. Tarbha	N. A. C.	39·44
Kalahandi District		
1. Bhawanipatna	M	45·53
2. Khariar Road	N. A. C.	37·65
3. Kesinga	N. A. C.	28·40
4. Junagarh	C	28·38
5. Khariar	C	37·90
Koraput District		
1. Jeypore	M	46·21
2. Sunabeda	N. A. C.	33·12
3. Rayagada	N. A. C.	41·85
4. Koraput	N. A. C.	34·64
5. Nowrangapur	M	45·69
6. Gunupur	N. A. C.	38·24
7. Kotpad	N. A. C.	40·11

APPENDIX II *Contd.*

Name of District/Town		Literacy rate
1		2
Koraput District - <i>Contd.</i>		
8. Umarkot	N. A. C.	31·56
9. Malkangiri	C	31·80
10. Gudari	C	47·13
Ganjam District		
1. Berhampur	M	51·00
2. Parlakhemundi	M	49·53
3. Aska	N. A. C.	50·93
4. Bhanjanagar	N. A. C.	49·48
5. Chatrapur	N. A. C.	56·18
6. Hinjili	N. A. C.	35·73
7. Polasara	C	31·93
8. Stradi	N. A. C.	43·31
9. Kavisurjyanagar	N. A. C.	37·09
10. Purushottampur	C	34·23
11. Bellaguntha	C	37·00
12. Khalikote	C	46·09
13. Rumbha	N. A. C.	29·97

APPENDIX II—*Concl'd.*

Name of District/Town		Literacy rate
1		2
Ganjam District—<i>Concl'd.</i>		
14. Buguda	C	40·93
15. Gopalpur	N. A. C.	33·71
Puri District		
1. Bhubaneswar	N. A. C.	62·23
2. Puri	M	52·06
3. Jatni	C	58·37
4. Khurda	N. A. C.	45·09
5. Nayagarh	N. A. C.	68·19

Note :

M—Municipality

N. A. C. —Notified Area Council

C—Census Town

6

OUR MOTHER-TONGUE

WE ALL KNOW that every one of us, in every walk of life, makes use of language and that it permeates all fields of human activity so ubiquitously and so intimately that we just take it for granted. It is the one single and unique possession of human race which makes mankind different from the rest of animals. Every human being from early childhood comes to learn the language of his or her first surroundings which is usually the family in which he or she is born and more likely the mother. This first learnt tongue of a child is known as mother-tongue. This

usually remains his predominant tongue throughout his life, although, as he grows and comes in contact with wider social circle including speakers of other languages, he picks up other tongues as well.

Language is thus one of the most intimately involved characteristics of human culture. When we find some people understand each other's spoken medium, we infer that probably they speak the same language. Conversely, there are such speech communities as do not either understand each other at all or do so rather poorly. Such situations have led the experts on languages to do extensive language studies and after such studies they have discovered that if a number of speeches have patterned similarities or correspondences in their sounds, words, sentence structure, etc., they should be the outcome of a development from the same source. As for example, when such correspondences were discovered in Greek, Latin and Sanskrit it was postulated that these languages must have developed from the same source which they named as Indo-European. All the languages showing relationship with the languages of the Indo-European group were thus grouped together and the whole set

was called Indo-European family of languages. In this way several language families in the world were established. But a very large number of languages of the world still remain to be properly classified under the nomenclatures of language family, branch or group.

Broad Classification of India's Languages

India also presents a complicated picture of a variety of languages of which quite a few still remain to be properly studied and classified. Happily, however, most of the languages of our country have been classified under four well known names of language families. They are: (I) Indo-Aryan family, (II) Dravidian family, (III) Austro-Asiatic family and (IV) Tibeto-Chinese family. We find the Indo-Aryan language speakers mainly concentrated along northern and south-western parts of India, Dravidian speakers along the south and south-eastern part, Austro-Asiatic speakers along the central part and the Tibeto-Chinese speakers along the north-eastern sector of India.

Coming nearer home, our own state almost covers an area where speakers of three major language families, viz., Indo-Aryan,

Dravidian and Austro-Asiatic are in considerably large numbers.

Collecting information on mother-tongues of the people and then presenting the language data of the country in a rational and classified manner has been the pride of Indian Census ever since 1901. This has been attempted in 1971 Census also and in the following we shall try to look into the broad features of the language distribution in the country and in our state.

Speakers of Languages under our Constitution in India

According to the information obtained through 1971 Census, there are a large number of languages spoken as mother-tongues in the country. Most of the tongues or dialects returned have been affiliated to a number of main languages after investigation by language experts. Of these, only 15 are recognised in our Constitution as the main languages of the country. The Eighth Schedule to our Constitution lists out these languages. The number of speakers of each of these languages and the proportion they form of India's total population is listed in the following table. The figures are provisional as the process of grouping and affiliation has not been finalised so far.

Table 6.1

(Provisional)

Name of language		Total number of speakers	Percentage to India's total population
1		2	3
1	Assamese ..	8,958,977	1.64
2	Bengali ..	44,792,722	8.17
3	Gujarati ..	25,875,252	4.72
4	Hindi ..	162,577,612	29.67
5	Kannada ..	21,707,918	3.96
6	Kashmiri ..	2,438,360	0.45
7	Malayalam ..	21,938,231	4.00
8	Marathi ..	42,251,207	7.71
9	Oriya ..	19,855,450	3.62
10	Punjabi ..	16,449,573	3.00
11	Sanskrit ..	2,212	Negligible
12	Sindhi ..	1,676,728	0.31
13	Tamil ..	37,690,020	6.88
14	Telugu ..	44,752,926	8.17
15	Urdu ..	28,607,874	5.22
	Other languages	68,374,747	12.48

SOURCE: Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India—
Pocket Book of Population Statistics, 1972

It is interesting to note that as large a proportion as 87.52 per cent of India's population account for 14 of these languages. The other language Sanskrit is numerically insignificant with a following of only 2,212 speakers. The important thing to note here is that rest of the languages are spoken by as little as 12.48 per cent of our country's population.

Another interesting fact that the above table brings into focus is the vast gulf of difference in the number of speakers between the first two numerically principal languages. Hindi, the most predominant language commands a following of nearly one-third of our country's population, while Bengali which is a very distant second, has a following as low as 8.17 per cent of the country's population.

Speakers of Languages under our Constitution in Orissa

Coming to our own state, the linguistic composition of the population is somewhat more restricted in the sense that the languages which have any significant following are fewer. Now, take a look at the table below which gives the total number of speakers of each language included in the Constitution and their percentage to Orissa's total population.

Table 6.2

(Provisional)

Name of language	Number of speakers in Orissa	Percentage to Orissa's total population
1	2	3
1 Assamese ..	88	N
2 Bengali ..	331,273	1.51
3 Gujarati ..	13,771	0.06
4 Hindi ..	240,552	1.10
5 Kannada ..	805	N
6 Kashmiri ..	32	N
7 Malayalam ..	11,468	0.05
8 Marathi ..	6,537	0.03
9 Oriya ..	18,460,061	84.12
10 Punjabi ..	16,978	0.08
11 Sanskrit ..	10	N
12 Sindhi ..	1,664	0.01
13 Tamil ..	9,160	0.04
14 Telugu ..	499,447	2.28
15 Urdu ..	286,541	1.31
Other languages	2,066,228	9.41

Note : 1. As in the case of the all-India table (6.1), so also here the figures have been computed on the basis of grouping of mother-tongues adopted in 1961 and should therefore be treated as Provisional at this stage.

2. N stands for Negligible.

What becomes apparent from the table is the overwhelming number of Oriya speakers. They form more than four-fifths of the state's population. The rest are comprised mostly of the speakers of Telugu, Bengali, Urdu and Hindi, the other principal languages of the state. The speakers of these languages as mother-tongues run into a few lakhs each, Telugu coming next to Oriya with a following of nearly five lakh persons. The speakers of the other ten languages are too few to call for any comments. The relatively large number of speakers in Telugu and Bengali languages is explained by the fact that the states of Andhra and West Bengal border our state to the south and north respectively.

Mother-tongues returned in 1971 Census

So far we have been discussing about the disposition of the main languages included in the Constitution. The speakers of these 15 languages under the Constitution in our state account for 90.59 per cent of our total population. The balance of 9.41 per cent of our population have for their mother-tongue one or the other of the numerous tongues or dialects listed in Appendix I. After completion of the final grouping and classification under the main languages in which the language experts are currently engaged the correct language picture will be known.

Eleven Major Mother-tongues — their Distribution

A complete list of mother-tongues and the number of speakers of each one of these languages as mother-tongues for our state is given in Appendix I to this chapter. For an appreciation of the overall position let us take the first eleven numerically strong languages and see how they are distributed in Orissa as a whole and in the districts.

Table 6.3

Sl. No.	Name of mother- tongue	Number of speakers	Percentage to total population
1	2	3	4
1	Oriya	18,457,958	84.11
2	Telugu	499,425	2.28
3	Santali	370,006	1.69
4	Kui	350,303	1.60
5	Bengali	331,237	1.51

Table 6.3 —Concl'd.

Sl. No.	Name of mother-tongue	Number of speakers	Percentage to total population
1	2	3	4
6	Urdu	286,541	1.31
7	Ho	213,871	0.97
8	Khond/Kondh	195,006	0.89
9	Hindi	193,867	0.88
10	Savara	157,801	0.72
11	Mundari	117,662	0.53

The table is self-explanatory. You would notice that of these eleven numerically strong languages returned as mother-tongues, six are tribal languages accounting for 6.40 per cent of our total population. This is no surprise for a state like Orissa where over 23 per cent of the population belong to scheduled tribes. It will be worthwhile to see how numerically strong languages as mother-tongues are represented in the districts. Do they maintain the same proportion in all the districts or are there variations ?

Oriya is by far the most predominant language in all the districts. The proportion is more than 90 per cent in the first group of districts, viz., Bolangir (98·42), Dhenkanal (97·97), Puri (95·64), Kalahandi (93·00) and Cuttack (92·93). In the second group comprising Sambalpur (89·65), Balasore (88·98), Ganjam (80·70) and Keonjhar (80·05), the proportion of Oriya speakers ranges between 80 to 90 per cent. In the remaining four districts, viz., Sundargarh, Mayurbhanj, Baudh-Khondmals and Koraput the proportion ranges between 56 to 68 per cent. We may now examine the linguistic composition of population in districts by the above ranges. Let us take up the districts in the third range first.

It is interesting to note that in the districts belonging to the third range with a relatively low proportion of Oriya speaking population, the gap is filled mostly by the local tribal languages. The major Indian languages like Telugu, Bengali or Urdu are not in high proportion in any of these districts. Study statement in Appendix II given at the end of this chapter which brings out the position clearly.

In the district of Mayurbhanj, you will see, where the Oriya speaking population is only 56·89 per cent, Santals speaking the tribal language 'Santali' as their mother-tongue constitute 21·28 per cent of the population. Other

tribal languages in high proportion in the area are Ho (6.97 per cent), Mundari (5.81 per cent) and Kol (2.82 per cent). Close proximity to Bengal could account for the relatively high proportion of 2.76 per cent of the Bengali speaking population in the district.

In the district of Baudh-Khondmals, the Oriya speaking population is only 67.29 per cent of the total population. The major part of the balance is made up by Kui, the speakers of which language as mother-tongue account for 31.58 per cent of the district population. The remaining 1 per cent of the population of the district is made up of speakers of Gondi, Khond/Kondh, Telugu, Urdu and Hindi, etc.

The district of Koraput presents a colourful confluence of tribal and non-tribal languages. Here 65.98 per cent of the population speak Oriya. Khond or Kondh, a tribal language accounts for 8.63 per cent. Next in order is Telugu whose proportion is 5.82 per cent. Kui and Koya the tribal languages constitute 5.20 per cent and 3.61 per cent respectively. Then follows Bengali with 3.55 per cent. The Bengali speakers in this district are mostly the displaced persons rehabilitated by the Dandakaranya Development Authority.

In the district of Sundargarh, Oriya speakers are about 56.97 per cent of the total

population. Speakers of tribal languages like Munda, Kurukh or Oraon, Kisan, Kharia and Mundari make up for 20·26 per cent of the total population of the district. The Sadan or Sadri speakers who constitute 8·52 per cent of the population are likely to be a spill-over from the border areas of Bihar where they are in heavy concentration.

We may now revert to the districts belonging to the first two ranges having a heavier concentration of Oriya speakers. In the district of Bolangir where Oriya speakers are as high as 98·42 per cent of the district population, those speaking Hindi, Telugu, Urdu and Gujarati range in proportion between 0·1 to 0·8 per cent. In Dhenkanal, with about 98 per cent of Oriya speaking population, Ho, Juang, Hindi, Urdu and Bengali go to make up nearly the rest. In Cuttack district with about 93 per cent of Oriya speakers, Urdu, Bengali, Telugu, Ho and Hindi speakers almost fully account for the balance. In Puri, the composition is more or less similar to that of Cuttack. Here Oriya speakers constitute 95·64 per cent and the majority of the rest are Urdu, Telugu, Bengali and Hindi speakers. In Kalahandi with 93 per cent of Oriya speakers Hindi, Kui, Laria, Khond or Kondh, Telugu, Punjabi and Chhattisgarhi constitute the speakers of the remaining mother-tongues.

In Sambalpur with 89.65 per cent of Oriya speakers, Hindi, Kisan, Laria, Munda, Telugu, Bengali and Kharia make up the balance. In Keonjhar district where the Oriya speaking population are as high as 80.05 per cent the three tribal languages, namely, Ho, Santali and Kol make up for the better part of the rest. Balasore, however, with 88.98 per cent of Oriya speakers has relatively high proportion of Urdu (3.59 per cent) and Bengali (3.53 per cent) speakers. Santali constitutes 1.53 per cent and Kol 0.71 per cent. Ganjam district with 80.70 per cent of Oriya speakers has a high proportion of Telugu speaking people who comprise 12.50 per cent of the population of the district. Next in order are Savara (4.71 per cent) and Kui (1.12 per cent). You may notice a small percentage of Tibetan speakers in this district. Like Bengali population in the district of Koraput, these Tibetans are displaced persons now rehabilitated in Ganjam district.

Rural-Urban Differentials in the Linguistic Composition

You may be curious to know as to how the speakers of the eleven numerically strong

languages of the state are distributed between the rural and urban areas. Now refer to Table 6.4. It will be clear from this table that the speakers of tribal languages are in lesser proportion in the urban areas while those speaking the non-tribal languages are more evenly distributed between the rural and urban areas. Take for example, Santals who constitute 1.69 per cent of the total population of the state. Of this, 1.66 per cent live in villages and only 0.03 per cent live in towns. The same is the case with Kui, Ho, Khond or Kondh, Savara and Mundari. You will find that almost all the Savara speakers live in villages. Of the non-tribal languages, 78.28 per cent of the total population speaking Oriya as mother-tongue live in villages and 5.83 per cent live in towns. Similarly, among Telugu speakers, 1.54 per cent live in villages and 0.74 per cent are urban dwellers and among Bengali speakers the proportion is 1.16 per cent rural and 0.35 per cent urban. The pattern of distribution of speakers of non-tribal languages is more or less in keeping with the overall rural-urban distribution of population in the state.

Table 6.4

Sl. No.	Name of mother-tongue	No. of speakers Rural	Percent- age to total popula- tion of the state	No. of speakers Urban	Percent- age to total popula- tion of the state
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Oriya	.. 17,178,627	78.28	1,279,331	5.83
2	Telugu	.. 337,569	1.54	161,856	0.74
3	Santali	.. 364,301	1.66	5,705	0.03
4	Kui	.. 348,627	1.59	1,676	0.01
5	Bengali	.. 254,396	1.16	76,841	0.35
6	Urdu	.. 197,047	0.90	89,494	0.41
7	Ho	.. 205,552	0.93	8,319	0.04
8	Khond/Kondh	.. 192,668	0.88	2,338	0.01
9	Hindi	.. 72,062	0.33	121,805	0.55
10	Savara	.. 157,087	0.72	714	N
11	Mundari	.. 114,726	0.52	2,936	0.01
	Other mother-tongues	676,558	3.08	94,379	0.43

N=Negligible

Languages Spoken in Cities

Cities by their very nature of growth and development tend to attract population of all faiths and languages. People migrate to cities in search of avocations and amenities.

This makes the cities ethnically and linguistically more heterogeneous than the rural areas. A glance at the statement in Appendix III giving the language composition of the cities of the state will bear it out.

Take Cuttack city. Apart from Oriya which is the mother-tongue of 134 lakh persons or of 69.06 per cent of the city's total population, a relatively good number is claimed by speakers of Urdu (20,835), Telugu (15,567), Bengali (10,831), Hindi (8,641) and Gujarati (1,536).

In Rourkela steel city, while 48.99 per cent of the city's population or 61,449 persons speak Oriya as their mother-tongue, Hindi accounts for 19,656 speakers, Bengali 12,959, Telugu 4,053, Malayalam 3,815, Punjabi 3,444, Urdu 3,103, Sadan or Sadri 2,458, Munda 2,185 and Tamil 1,569.

Berhampur city unlike Cuttack or Rourkela has a large proportion of Telugu speaking population. Next to Oriya (81,279) comes Telugu with a strength of 31,421 and Urdu with 2,421. Other languages like Hindi, Bengali, Gujarati and Malayalam are also represented in this city though their strength would not go beyond a thousand each in any case.

In Bhubaneswar city, besides Oriya (87,606), there are Telugu (7,107), Bengali (4,145), Urdu (2,534) and Hindi (1,870) speakers who make up the major part of the city's population. A very small section of the city's population is accounted for by Punjabi, Malayalam and Tamil speakers though their strength does not exceed 800 in any case.

APPENDIX I

List of mother-tongues returned in the state in 1971 Census

Sl. No.	Name of mother-tongue	Total	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4	5
1	Adivasi ..	533	250	283
2	Adra* ..	6	6	..
3	Afghani/Kabuli/Pashto	6	..	6
4	African ..	1	..	1
5	Agaria ..	309	249	60
6	Andhra *† ..	21	21	..
7	Ao ..	2	..	2
8	Arabic/Arbi ..	512	448	64
9	Armenian ..	1	..	1
10	Arua * ..	24	..	24
11	Assamese ..	88	13	75
12	Baga* ..	43	43	..
13	Banjari ..	194	183	11
14	Baraik ..	36	36	..
15	Bas* ..	31	31	..
16	Bat* ..	41	41	..
17	Bathudi ..	403	395	8
18	Bengali ..	331,237	254,396	76,841
19	Bhala* ..	19	19	..
20	Bhili/Bhilodi ..	3	..	3

APPENDIX I—Contd.

Sl. No.	Name of mother-tongue	Total	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4	5
21	Bhojpuri ..	1,027	46	981
22	Bhuiya/Bhuyan ..	1,836	1,821	15
23	Bhumij ..	27,561	27,271	290
24	Bhutani ..	4	3	1
25	Bihari ..	668	146	522
26	Bilaspuri *† ..	278	127	151
27	Bim* ..	188	188	..
28	Bindha* ..	15	15	..
29	Bindhani* ..	500	500	..
30	Bujia/Brijia/Binjhia ..	311	178	133
31	Bodo/Boro ..	2	..	2
32	Bonda ..	3,487	3,487	..
33	Burmese ..	158	76	82
34	Ceylonese/Sinelu/Singhalese ..	1	..	1
35	Chamari *‡ ..	5	5	..
36	Chhattisgarhi ..	5,435	3,684	1,751
37	Chinese/Chini ..	87	11	76
38	Coorgi/Kodagu ..	1	1	..
39	Czech/Czechoslovakian ..	2	..	2
40	Danish ..	9	9	..
41	Dhangri ..	9	9	..

APPENDIX I—*Contd.*

Sl. No.	Name of mother-tongue	Total	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4	5
42	Dhelki ..	186	186	..
43	Dhurwa ..	2	..	2
44	Dogri *† ..	43	6	37
45	Dorha ..	1	..	1
46	Dutch ..	15	..	15
47	English ..	1,401	322	1,079
48	French ..	4	..	4
49	Gadaba ..	9,211	8,027	1,184
50	Gady* ..	126	126	..
51	Garhwali ..	19	..	19
52	German ..	124	17	107
53	Goanese ..	1	..	1
54	Gondi ..	16,248	16,246	2
55	Gorkhali/Nepali ..	5,554	1,787	3,767
56	Greek ..	29	..	29
57	Gujarati ..	13,754	1,810	11,944
58	Gurmukhi *† ..	991	81	910
59	Gurung ..	10	10	..
60	Hadjagar * ..	140	140	..
61	Halabi *† ..	3,765	3,751	14
62	Hindi ..	193,867	72,062	121,805
63	Hindustani ..	12	12	..

APPENDIX I—Contd.

Sl. No.	Name of mother-tongue	Total	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4	5
64	Ho ..	213,871	205,552	8,319
65	Hotar* ..	86	..	86
66	Indonesian ..	23	..	23
67	Irani/Iranian ..	21	..	21
68	Jangali ..	99	99	..
69	Japanese ..	14	12	2
70	Jharia *† ..	177	133	44
71	Juang ..	12,172	12,171	1
72	Kachchhi *† ..	175	47	128
73	Kami ..	1	1	..
74	Kammara *† ..	1	1	..
75	Kannada ..	796	176	620
76	Karmali ..	5,515	5,483	32
77	Karnataka *† ..	9	3	6
78	Kashmiri ..	32	13	19
79	Kerala *† ..	67	66	1
80	Kharia ..	49,887	47,393	2,494
81	Khasi ..	3	..	3
82	Kherwari ..	33	33	..
83	Khond/Kondh ..	195,006	192,668	2,338
84	Kisan ..	72,528	69,496	3,032
85	Koda/Kora ..	1,136	1,133	3

APPENDIX I—*Contd.*

Sl. No.	Name of mother- tongue	Total	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4	5
86	Kol ..	74,240	71,909	2,331
87	Konda ..	2,175	1,552	623
88	Konkani ..	210	3	207
89	Koya ..	73,716	73,716	..
90	Kudubi ..	472	471	1
91	Kui ..	350,303	348,627	1,676
92	Kuluk* ..	27	27	..
93	Kumali* ..	231	231	..
94	Kumauni ..	27	24	3
95	Kumbhari *† ..	623	623	..
96	Kumua* ..	59	59	..
97	Kunu* ..	70	70	..
98	Kurmi ..	647	647	..
99	Kurukh/Oraon ..	59,170	53,952	5,218
100	Kutia ..	907	905	2
101	Laban* ..	38	38	..
102	Lohari* ..	159	155	4
103	Lama ..	12	1	11
104	Laria*† ..	40,484	36,699	3,785
105	Limbu ..	3	3	..
106	Lodha ..	28	28	..
107	Madani* ..	13	..	13

APPENDIX I—*Contd.*

Sl. No.	Name of mother-tongue	Total	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4	5
108	Madhiar* ..	19	..	19
109	Madrasī ..	305	305	..
110	Madri* ..	18	..	18
111	Madurai*† ..	2	..	2
112	Magahi/Magadhi ..	296	..	296
113	Maguthi* ..	13	..	13
114	Mahanta ..	4,321	4,321	..
115	Mahari*† ..	84	84	..
116	Mahato ..	672	663	9
117	Mahili ..	866	842	24
118	Maithili ..	391	62	329
119	Malari ..	38	38	..
120	Malayalam ..	11,401	3,166	8,235
121	Mali*† ..	7	..	7
122	Malto ..	8	..	8
123	Malvi ..	1	..	1
124	Manipuri ..	88	..	88
125	Manjhi ..	1,743	1,662	81
126	Mankedia ..	192	192	..
127	Marathi ..	2,061	512	1,549
128	Marwari ..	3,070	307	2,763
129	Matia*† ..	1,631	1,630	1

APPENDIX I--*Contd.*

Sl. No.	Name of mother-tongue	Total	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4	5
130	Mewari ..	1	..	1
131	Mirdha ..	2,159	2,156	3
132	Mukucha *	60	60	..
133	Munda ..	79,892	70,711	9,181
134	Mundari ..	117,662	114,726	2,936
135	Muria *†	1	..	1
136	Naga ..	4	..	4
137	Nagari ..	150	149	1
138	Nagpuria*†	288	196	92
139	Nayak ..	256	256	..
140	Newari ..	1	..	1
141	Norwegian ..	2	..	2
142	Oriya ..	18,457,958	17,178,627	1,279,331
143	Pahari ..	10	..	10
144	Pali ..	1	.	1
145	Pandi *†	2	..	2
146	Pardesi *†	68	..	68
147	Parenga ..	63	63	..
148	Parji ..	39,561	36,914	2,647
149	Pengu ..	621	621	..
150	Persian ..	50	15	35
151	Portuguese ..	1	.	1

APPENDIX I—Contd.

Sl. No.	Name of mother-tongue	Total	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4	5
152	Punjabi ..	15,938	4,635	11,303
153	Puran * ..	35	35	..
154	Purum ..	8	..	8
155	Rai ..	7	7	..
156	Rajasthani ..	251	86	165
157	Rajputi *† ..	3	..	3
158	Rajwari ..	204	204	..
159	Reang ..	4	..	4
160	Roumanian ..	49	..	49
161	Routia ..	165	159	6
162	Russian ..	18	..	18
163	Sadan/Sadri ..	93,883	85,320	8,563
164	Sansari ..	131	131	..
165	Sanskrit ..	10	..	10
166	Santali ..	370,006	364,301	5,705
167	Satnami *† ..	120	120	..
168	Saunti*† ..	293	293	..
169	Saurashtra*† ..	17	..	17
170	Savara ..	157,801	157,087	714
171	Sikhi*† ..	3	..	3
172	Sindhi ..	1,489	66	1,423
173	Spanish ..	25	4	21
174	Swiss ..	5	..	5

APPENDIX I—*Concl'd.*

Sl. No.	Name of mother-tongue	Total	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4	5
175	Tamang ..	3	..	3
176	Tamil ..	9,158	4,410	4,748
177	Tamudia ..	2,469	2,361	108
178	Telki* ..	91	91	..
179	Telugu ..	499,425	337,569	161,856
180	Thakri*† ..	3	3	..
181	Tharua ..	929	923	6
182	Thatari ..	50	50	..
183	Tibetan ..	2,941	2,928	13
184	Tulu ..	37	21	16
185	Turi ..	561	561	..
186	Turkish/Turkistani ..	1	1	..
187	Ungala* ..	22	..	22
188	Urdu ..	286,541	197,047	89,494
189	Vayar* ..	18	18	..

* Mother-tongues in respect of whom field investigations are to be taken up

*† Mother-tongues grouped under the main languages

APPENDIX II

Number of speakers and their percentage to total population of
some major mother-tongues in districts

District	Name of mother-tongue	No. of speakers	Percentage to total population
1	2	3	4
Sambalpur (1,844,898)	Oriya ..	1,653,886	89·65
	Hindi ..	51,322	2·78
	Kisan ..	28,750	1·56
	Laria ..	19,396	1·05
	Munda ..	13,380	0·73
	Telugu ..	12,781	0·69
	Bengali ..	10,951	0·59
	Kharia ..	8,865	0·48
	Urdu ..	7,460	0·41
	Sadan/Sadri ..	5,753	0·31
	Total ..	1,812,544	98·25
	Others ..	32,354	1·75
Sundargarh (1,030,758)	Oriya ..	587,262	56·97
	Sadan/Sadri ..	87,880	8·52
	Munda ..	55,651	5·40
	Hindi ..	55,630	5·40
	Kurukh/Oraon ..	51,093	4·96

APPENDIX II--Contd.

District	Name of mother-tongue	No. of speakers	Percentage to total population
1	2	3	4
Sundargarh— <i>Concd.</i>	Kisan ..	42,644	4.14
	Kharia ..	40,702	3.95
	Bengali ..	23,918	2.32
	Mundari ..	18,757	1.82
	Urdu ..	16,145	1.56
	Total ..	979,682	95.04
	Others ..	51,076	4.96
Keonjhar (955,514)	Oriya ..	764,860	80.05
	Ho ..	75,928	7.95
	Santali ..	28,740	3.01
	Bengali ..	24,892	2.60
	Kol ..	16,433	1.72
	Hindi ..	9,407	0.98
	Juang ..	8,937	0.94
	Urdu ..	5,676	0.59
	Munda ..	4,673	0.49
	Mundari ..	2,930	0.31
	Total ..	942,476	98.64
	Others ..	13,038	1.36

APPENDIX II- *Contd.*

District	Name of mother-tongue	No. of speakers	Percentage to total population
1	2	3	4
Mayurbhanj (1,434,200)	Oriya ..	815,936	56·89
	Santali ..	305,110	21·28
	Ho ..	99,953	6·97
	Mundari ..	83,314	5·81
	Kol ..	40,378	2·82
	Bengali ..	39,626	2·76
	Bhumij ..	19,634	1·37
	Hindi ..	7,937	0·55
	Urdu ..	7,043	0·49
	Mahanta ..	2,198	0·15
	Total	1,421,129	99·09
	Others	13,071	0·91
Balasore (1,830,504)	Oriya ..	1,628,728	88·98
	Urdu ..	65,736	3·59
	Bengali ..	64,686	3·53
	Santali ..	27,951	1·53
	Kol ..	12,931	0·71
	Bhumij ..	7,038	0·38
	Mundari	6,040	0·33

APPENDIX II—Contd.

District	Name of mother-tongue	No. of speakers	Percentage to total population
1	2	3	4
Balasore— <i>Concd.</i>	Hindi ..	5,945	0·33
	Telugu ..	3,906	0·21
	Kui ..	1,524	0·08
	Total ..	1,824,485	99·67
	Others ..	6,019	0·33
Cuttack (3,827,678)	Oriya ..	3,556,987	92·93
	Urdu ..	127,612	3·33
	Bengali ..	76,811	2·01
	Telugu ..	22,464	0·59
	Ho ..	14,293	0·37
	Hindi ..	12,641	0·33
	Kol ..	2,983	0·08
	Santali ..	2,735	0·07
	Gujarati ..	1,694	0·05
	Munda ..	1,647	0·04
	Total ..	3,819,867	99·80
	Others ..	7,811	0·20
Dhenkanal (1,293,914)	Oriya ..	1,267,714	97·97
	Ho ..	8,098	0·63
	Juang ..	3,142	0·24

APPENDIX II—*Contd.*

District	Name of mother-tongue	No. of speakers	Percentage to total Population
1	2	3	4
Dhenkanal— <i>Concd.</i>	Hindi ..	2,666	0·21
	Urdu .	2,455	0·19
	Bengali ..	2,024	0·16
	Munda ..	1,387	0·11
	Santali ..	1,251	0·10
	Telugu ..	1,353	0·10
	Tamil ..	658	0·05
	Total ..	1,290,748	99·76
	Others ..	3,166	0·24
Baudh-Khond- mals (621,675)	Oriya ..	418,328	67·29
	Kui ..	196,312	31·58
	Gondi ..	2,208	0·36
	Khond/Kondh ..	1,727	0·28
	Telugu ..	1,165	0·19
	Urdu ..	617	0·10
	Hindi ..	496	0·08
	Tamil ..	214	0·03
	Bengali ..	154	0·02
	Savara ..	81	0·01
	Total ..	621,302	99·94
	Others ..	373	0·06

APPENDIX II—*Contd.*

District	Name of mother-tongue	No. of speakers	Percentage to total population
1	2	3	4
Bolangir (1,263,657)	Oriya ..	1,243,727	98·42
	Hindi ..	10,025	0·79
	Telugu ..	4,363	0·35
	Urdu ..	1,607	0·13
	Gujarati ..	1,293	0·10
	Bengali ..	560	0·05
	Munda ..	298	0·02
	Sindhi ..	291	0·02
	Kol ..	253	0·02
	Tamil ..	241	0·02
	Total ..	1,262,658	99·92
	Others ..	999	0·08
Kalahandi (1,163,869)	Oriya ..	1,082,376	93·00
	Hindi ..	21,102	1·81
	Kui ..	18,700	1·61
	Laria ..	18,162	1·56
	Khond/Kondh ..	7,790	0·67
	Telugu ..	3,466	0·30
	Punjabi ..	3,321	0·29
	Chhattisgarhi ..	2,942	0·25

APPENDIX II—*Contd.*

District	Name of mother-tongue	No. of speakers	Percentage to total population
1	2	3	4
Kalahandi— Concd.	Gujarati ..	1,279	0·11
	Urdu ..	991	0·08
	Total ..	1,160,129	99·68
	Others ..	3,740	0·32
Koraput (2,043,281)	Oriya ..	1,348,185	65·98
	Khond/Kondh ..	176,274	8·63
	Telugu ..	118,834	5·82
	Kui ..	106,179	5·20
	Koya ..	73,716	3·61
	Bengali ..	72,598	3·55
	Savara ..	48,510	2·37
	Parji ..	39,290	1·92
	Gondi ..	13,975	0·68
	Gadaba ..	9,211	0·45
	Total ..	2,006,772	98·21
	Others ..	36,509	1·79
Ganjam (2,293,808)	Oriya ..	1,851,101	80·70
	Telugu ..	286,644	12·50
	Savara ..	107,905	4·71
	Kui ..	25,730	1·12
	Khond/Kondh ..	8,974	0·39

APPENDIX II—*Concd.*

District	Name of mother-tongue	No. of speakers	Percentage to total population
1	2	3	4
Ganjam— <i>Concd.</i>	Urdu ..	4,912	0·21
	Tibetan ..	2,929	0·13
	Hindi ..	1,834	0·08
	Bengali ..	1,189	0·05
	Malayalam ..	515	0·02
	Total ..	2,291,733	99·91
	Others ..	2,075	0·09
Puri (2,340,859)	Oriya ..	2,238,868	95·64
	Urdu ..	41,133	1·76
	Telugu ..	34,666	1·48
	Bengali ..	13,303	0·57
	Hindi ..	6,259	0·27
	Kui ..	1,421	0·06
	Savara ..	1,023	0·04
	Punjabi ..	802	0·03
	Tamil ..	607	0·03
	Malayalam ..	528	0·02
	Total ..	2,338,610	99·90
	Others ..	2,249	0·10

APPENDIX III

Number of speakers and their percentage to total population of
some major mother-tongues in cities

Name of city	Name of mother-tongue	No. of speakers	Percentage to total population
1	2	3	4
Cuttack (194,068)	Oriya ..	134,029	69·06
	Urdu ..	20,835	10·74
	Telugu ..	15,567	8·02
	Bengali ..	10,831	5·58
	Hindi ..	8,641	4·45
	Gujarati ..	1,536	0·79
	Punjabī ..	559	0·29
	Tamil ..	418	0·22
	Marwari .	382	0·20
	Malayalam ..	350	0·18
Total ..		193,148	99·53
Others ..		920	0·47
Berhampur (117,662)	Oriya ..	81,279	69·08
	Telugu ..	31,421	26·70
	Urdu ..	2,421	2·06
	Hindi ..	701	0·60
	Bengali ..	695	0·59
	Gujarati ..	375	0·32
	Malayalam ..	202	0·17

APPENDIX III—*Contd.*

Name of city	Name of mother-tongue	No. of speakers	Percentage to total population
1	2	3	4
Berhampur— <i>Concd.</i>	Tamil	.. 163	0·14
	Punjabi	.. 100	0·08
	Burmese	. 55	0·05
	Total	. 117,412	99·79
	Others	.. 250	0·21
Rourkela Steel Township (125,426)	Oriya	.. 61,449	48·99
	Hindi	.. 19,656	15·67
	Bengali	.. 12,959	10·33
	Telugu	.. 4,053	3·23
	Malayalam	.. 3,815	3·04
	Punjabi	.. 3,444	2·75
	Urdu	.. 3,103	2·48
	Sadan/Sadri	.. 2,458	1·96
	Munda	.. 2,185	1·74
	Tamil	.. 1,569	1·25
	Total	.. 114,691	91·44
	Others	.. 10,735	8·56

APPENDIX III—*Concl'd.*

Name of city	Name of mother-tongue	No. of speakers	Percentage to total population
1	2	3	4
Bhubaneswar (105,491)	Oriya ..	87,606	83·05
	Telugu ..	7,107	6·74
	Bengali ..	4,145	3·93
	Urdu ..	2,534	2·40
	Hindi ..	1,870	1·77
	Punjabi ..	723	0·69
	Malayalam ..	343	0·32
	Tamil ..	232	0·22
	Gorkhali/Nepali ..	170	0·16
	Marwari ..	116	0·11
Total ..		104,846	99·39
Others ..		645	0·61

Note Agglomeration of cities are not included in the table.

THE RELIGIONS WE FOLLOW

OURS IS A LAND of many faiths . Yet, we all live in harmony and take pride in the fact that each one of us is an Indian with the welfare of our motherland always at heart. India is probably the only nation in the world where the people profess so many religions. Each one of us is at liberty not only to freely profess his religion but also preach it. Our Constitution guarantees that no one following any particular religion will either be specially favoured or discriminated against. The state does not patronise any particular religion. For these reasons, India is known as a secular state.

With the development of the concept of secular state and increasing tolerance for the other man's faith, religious beliefs no longer evoke militant loyalties or arouse violent emotions. You might ask why religion should have anything to do with census. We attach importance to religion in census because many facets of the life of a person are influenced by his religious persuasion, though probably to a lesser extent than before. The religious composition of a population is of interest to the demographer because it is related to important aspects of demography like marital status, occupation and migration apart from its influence on the birth and death rate. Religion may also influence literacy rate, educational levels and to some extent economic condition. This is why religion has prominently featured throughout as a part of the census questionnaire.

In fact, till 1941 religion was considered so crucial that important statistical data like age, sex, literacy, occupation, etc., were presented separately for persons professing different religions. From 1951 Census the data on religion are limited to merely showing total population under each religion.

Religious Composition of India's Population

Our country abounds in religions, but the most important religions—from the point of view of preponderance are six, viz. Hinduism, Islam, Christianity, Sikhism, Buddhism and Jainism. The number of persons belonging to each major religion in the country and their percentage to the total population is shown in the following table.

Table 7.1

Name of Religion		Population	Proportion to total population (per cent)
1		2	3
Hinduism	..	453,292,086	82.72
Islam	..	61,417,934	11.21
Christianity	..	14,223,382	2.60
Sikhism	..	10,378,797	1.89
Buddhism	..	3,812,325	0.70
Jainism	..	2,604,646	0.47
Other religions and persuasions	..	2,184,556	0.40
Religion not stated	..	36,083	0.01
Total	.	547,949,809	100.00

Source: Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India—Paper 2 of 1972

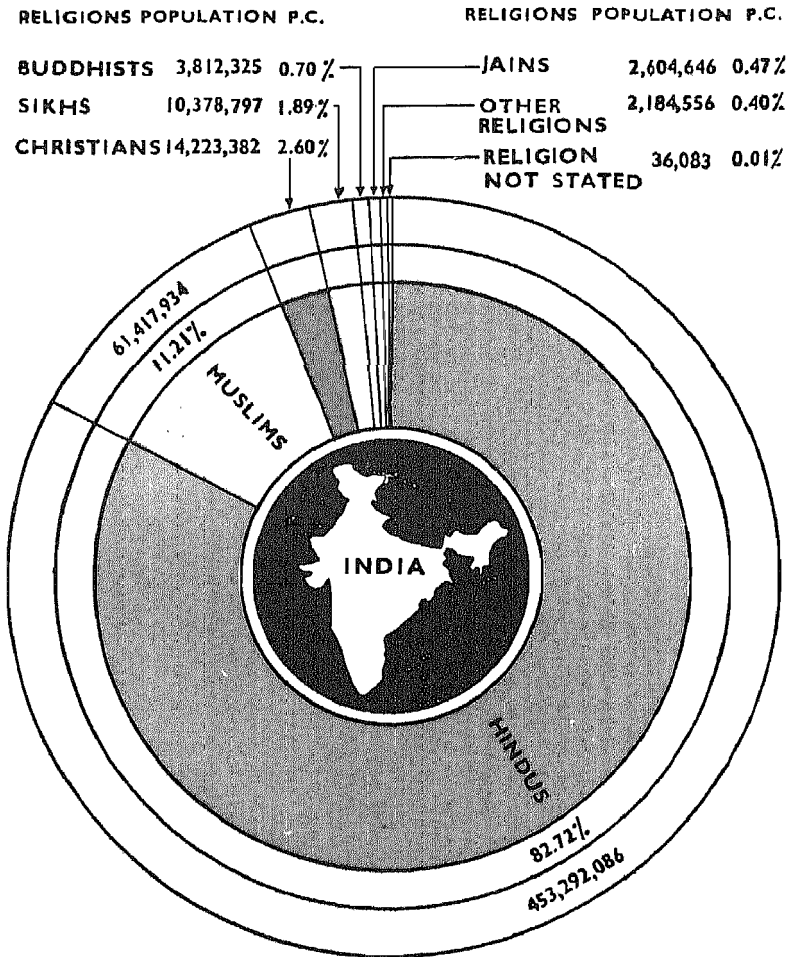
You would notice that a very high proportion of the inhabitants of India comprising 82.72 per cent are followers of Hinduism. All the other religions combined constitute 17.28 per cent. The contribution of individual religions to this figure is far too low. Next to Hinduism, but far behind, comes Islam with a proportion of 11.21 per cent of the population. The other two religions that contribute to the population to an appreciable extent are Christianity and Sikhism with 2.60 per cent and 1.89 per cent respectively. That is to say, nearly eighty-three out of every one hundred Indians are Hindus, about eleven Muslims, three Christians, nearly two Sikhs and nearly one Buddhist.

See Table 7.2 giving the number of adherents of different religions over the last six decades in the country.

You would notice that there has been no marked fluctuation in the religious composition of the country excepting for the dwindling number of Muslims between 1941 and 1951. This might be due to the large scale migration of the Muslims of undivided India to Pakistan. The number of Sikhs also increased between 1951 and 1961 because many of them crossed the border on account of partition and settled in India. Barring these two aspects nothing much of consequence can

INDIA

POPULATION UNDER MAJOR RELIGIONS, 1971



Hinduism	..	4,533	8,272	3,664	8,351	2,697	8,689
Islam	..	614	1,121	459	1,070	282	909
Christianity	..	142	260	107	244	73	235
Sikhism	..	104	189	79	179	24	77
Jainism	..	26	47	20	46	16	52
Buddhism	..	38	70	32	73	1	3
Zoroastrianism	..	1	2	1	2	1	3
Others	..	21	39	15	35	10	32
Total	..	5,479	10,000	4,387	10,000	3,104	10,000

Table 7.2—Contd.

Name of Religion	1941		1931		1921	
	Total number in lakhs	Number per 10,000	Total number in lakhs	Number per 10,000	Total number in lakhs	Number per 10,000
1	8	9	10	11	12	13
Hinduism	2,389	7,589	2,036	8,434	1,834	8,440
Islam	396	1,258	238	986	208	957
Christianity	58	184	51	211	39	179
Sikhism	41	130	11	46	8	37
Jainism	14	45	12	50	11	51
Buddhism	1	3	1	4	1	5
Zoroastrianism	1	3	1	4	1	5
Others	248	788	64	265	71	326
Total	3,148	10,000	2,414	10,000	2,173	10,000

Source : Columns 2 to 5—Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India—Paper 2 of 1972. For Zoroastrianism in 1961—Part II-C(i), 1961, India

Columns 6 to 13—Registrar General, India—Paper No. 2 of 1953—Religion, 1951 Census

be seen in the table. You may, however, notice that the percentage of Hindus is gradually coming down ever so slightly.

Religious Composition of Orissa

Let us now see what kind of picture the religious composition of our own state presents. The following table gives the population under the important religions in Orissa as per 1971 Census.

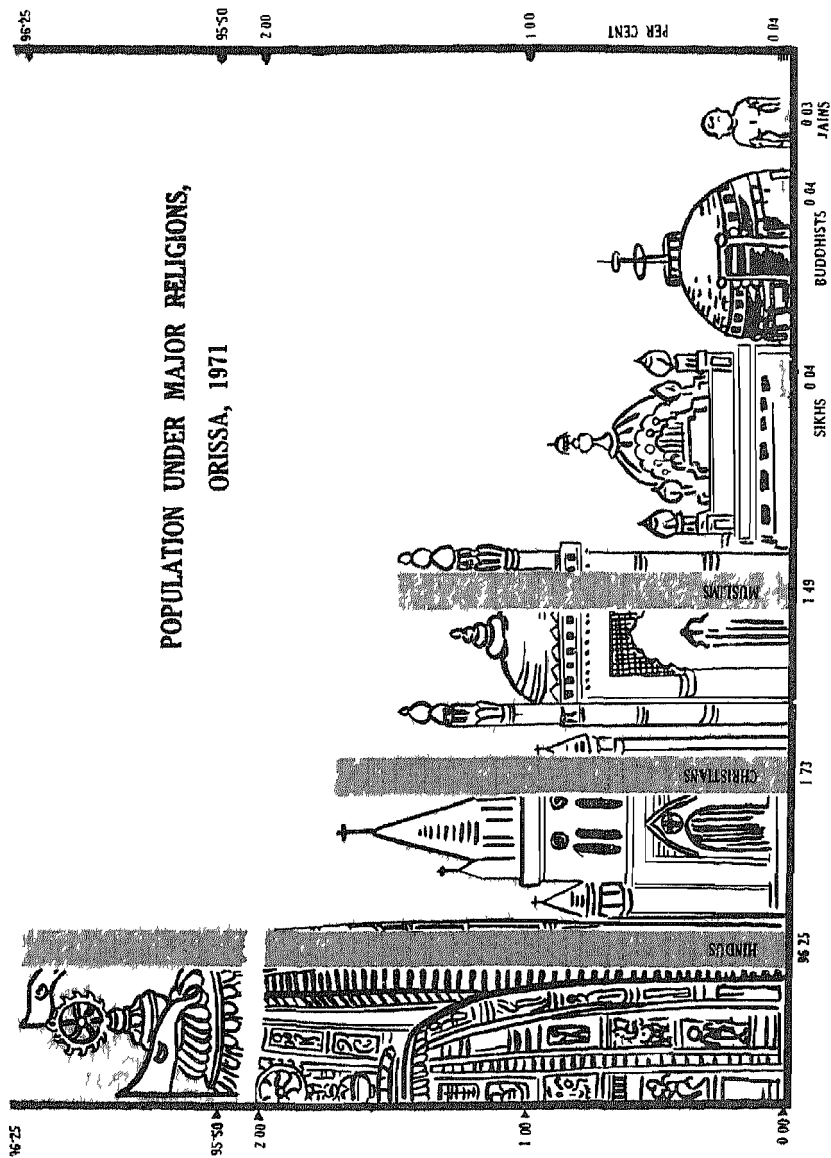
Table 7.3

Name of Religion	Population	Proportion to total population (per cent)
1	2	3
Hinduism ..	21,121,056	96.25
Christianity ..	378,888	1.73
Islam ..	326,507	1.49
Sikhism ..	10,204	0.04
Buddhism ..	8,462	0.04
Jainism ..	6,521	0.03
Other religions and persuasions .	91,859	0.42
Religion not stated ..	1,118	N
Total .	21,944,615	100.00

N stands for Negligible.

Comparing the religious composition of Orissa with that of India, we observe that the percentage of Hindus is much higher in Orissa at 96.25 per cent—an excess of 13.53 points over the all-India figure. Muslims, who constitute 11.21 per cent on an all-India basis are only 1.49 per cent in Orissa. Christians, who account for 2.60 per cent at all-India level are 1.73 per cent of Orissa's population. The proportion of Sikh population in our state is 0.04 per cent against India's 1.89 per cent. Buddhists number slightly less than Sikhs in Orissa making approximately the same proportion as Sikhs to our total population. Jains are almost negligible at 0.03 per cent. The position in Orissa reveals a much greater concentration of Hindus. In fact, Orissa leads all other states in the country with the highest proportion of Hindus.

It would be relevant to mention here that a few other religions, which have very few followers have been put under 'other religions'. Zoroastrians and followers of a religion called 'Sarna' are included in this category. People of all these faiths in our state comprise 0.42 per cent of the state's population as against 0.40 per cent for all-India. In absolute terms, this figure represents a little more than 90,000 persons in



Orissa, a bulk of whom profess the religion known as 'Sarna'. The followers of this religion are mostly from Mayurbhanj district. More of this faith later in this chapter.

A Comparative Study of the Religions in Districts

We may now turn our attention to districts and see if the religious composition conforms to the general pattern or shows any variations. Table 7.4 shows the percentage of population of each religion to total population of the state and districts as revealed in 1971 Census.

Hinduism

Let us take Hinduism, numerically the most important religion, first. In the whole state, as already mentioned, the followers of Hinduism account for 96.25 per cent in 1971. All the other religions put together contribute only 3.75 per cent of Orissa's population. In 1961, the percentage of Hindus in the state was 97.57. Within a period of 10 years, the proportion of Hindus in the state has gone down by 1.32 points.

Among the districts, Dhenkanal has the largest proportion of Hindus with 99.65 per cent. The preponderance of the followers of Hinduism in this district is so high that it occupies the highest place among the districts

Table 7.4

State/District	Proportion of Population of each Religion to total Population, 1971 (per cent)							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Hinduism	Christianity	Islam	Sikhism	Buddhism	Jainism	Other religions and persuasions
ORISSA	..	96.25	1.73	1.49	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.42
Sambalpur	..	97.73	1.48	0.60	0.08	0.01	0.01	..
Sundargarh	..	80.35	16.55	2.19	0.45	0.02	0.05	0.32
Keonjhar	..	98.83	0.27	0.73	0.10	N	N	0.67
Mayurbhanj	..	92.88	0.14	0.79	N	N	0.06	6.13
Balasore	..	96.08	0.14	3.77	N	N	0.01	N
Cuttack	..	96.19	0.18	3.48	0.02	0.12	0.01	N

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Dhenkanal	..	99.65	0.06	0.24	0.03	0.02	N
Baudh-Khondmals	..	93.24	6.53	0.23	N	N	..
Bolangir	..	98.66	0.89	0.27	0.01	N	0.17
Kalahandi	..	99.23	0.30	0.28	0.05	N	0.12
Koraput	..	96.60	2.99	0.34	0.03	0.01	0.03
Ganjam	..	97.57	2.02	0.28	0.01	0.12	N
Puri	..	97.84	0.14	1.98	0.02	0.01	0.01

N stands for Negligible.

of India. Second comes Kalahandi district with a proportion of 99·23 per cent. Keonjhar with 98·83 per cent, Bolangir with 98·66 per cent and Puri with 97·84 per cent follow in that order. The lowest proportion of Hindus are in the Sundargarh district, being 80·35 per cent of the total population of the district. Having a proportion of 92·88 per cent of Hindus, Mayurbhanj district follows Sundargarh with a wide enough gap in between. The district having the third lowest proportion of Hindus is Baudh-Khondmals (93·24 per cent). The proportion of Hindus in the other districts is above 96 per cent.

One common feature which becomes evident is the uniform decrease in the percentage of Hindus in 1971 in all the districts as compared to the figure of 1961 as the Table 7.5 which presents the figures for different religions in 1971 and 1961 in percentage for Orissa and districts would show. The shortfall within these 10 years is the highest in Mayurbhanj district (6·29 points). Sundargarh district lost 4·12 points and Baudh-Khondmals 3·51 points.

Before we proceed to discuss other religions, it may be relevant to acquaint ourselves with a relatively new religion which is fast gaining adherents. The proportion of 6·29 per

Table 7.5

State/District	Year	Percentage of Population of each Religion to total Population							
		Hinduism	Christi- anity	Islam	Sikhism	Buddhism	Jainism	Other religions and per- suasions	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
ORISSA	..	96.25 97.57	1.73 1.15	1.49 1.23	0.04 0.03	0.04 N	0.03 0.01	0.42 0.01	
Sambalpur	..	97.73 98.73	1.48 0.79	0.69 0.41	0.08 0.06	0.01 N	0.01 0.01		
Sundargarh	..	80.35 84.47	16.55 14.02	2.19 1.39	0.45 0.12	0.02 N	0.05 N	0.32 ..	
Keonjhar	..	98.83 99.42	0.27 0.11	0.73 0.35	0.10 0.10	N N	N 0.02	0.07 ..	
Mayurbhanj	..	92.88 99.17	0.14 0.07	0.79 0.63	N N	N 0.01	0.06 N	6.13 0.12	
Balasore	..	96.08 96.64	0.14 0.14	3.77 3.21	N N	N N	0.01 0.01	N N	
Cuttack	..	96.19 96.79	0.18 0.15	3.48 3.01	0.02 0.04	0.12 0.01	0.01 N	N N	

Table 7.5—Concl'd.

State/District	Year	Percentage of Population of each Religion to total Population							Other religions and persuasions
		Hinduism	Christi- anity	Islam	Sikhism	Buddhism	Jainism	8	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Dhenkanal	..	1971 1961	99.65 99.73	0.06 0.05	0.24 0.20	0.03 0.02	0.02 N	N N	..
Baudh-Khondmals	..	1971 1961	93.24 96.75	6.53 3.16	0.23 0.09	N N	N N	..	..
Bolangir	..	1971 1961	98.66 99.21	0.89 0.48	0.27 0.22	0.01 0.02	N N	0.17 0.07	..
Kalahandi	..	1971 1961	99.23 99.52	0.30 0.14	0.28 0.23	0.05 0.03	N N	0.12 0.08	N
Koraput	..	1971 1961	96.60 97.74	2.99 2.01	0.34 0.23	0.03 0.01	0.01 N	0.03 0.01	..
Ganjam	..	1971 1961	97.57 98.81	2.02 0.93	0.28 0.26	0.01 N	0.12 N	N N	..
Puri	..	1971 1961	97.84 97.95	0.14 0.14	1.98 1.89	0.02 0.01	0.01 0.01	0.01 N	N ..

N stands for Negligible.

cent of its Hindu population lost by Mayurbhanj in 1971 appears to have been mainly claimed by this religion which is called *Sarna*. The followers of this religion in the district were as few as 1,498 in 1961. In 1971 they went up to 87,839. This religion also commands a modest following in the districts of Sundargarh and Keonjhar. To enable you to understand the main tenets of this rather newly developing faith, I am quoting below an extract from the Census Report of Orissa, 1951 :

“Persons belonging to this religion inhabit the northern portions of Mayurbhanj mostly. The name of the religion is derived, according to a local report, from the word ‘Sarin’ or ‘Salgi’ which is an appellation of the Goddess of nature. The members of this religion believe that the Goddess of nature is the mother of the world and has originated this religion for humanity for comfortable and peaceful wordly life and for attainment of salvation. According to this belief, the soul is immortal and it comes to earth to enjoy the body and returns to heaven without the body. The worship is performed under a tree, in the midst of a grove and not in a temple or a building of any kind. There is no priest to conduct the worship, which is done either on a community or individual basis. Drinks,

food and occasionally the blood of an individual or of his pet animal are offered for worship."

Christianity

We now come to Christianity, the religion that has the second largest following in the state as per 1971 Census. The followers of this faith number 378,888 and account for 1.73 per cent of Orissa's population and yet, they come next to the Hindus. In 1961 the proportion of Christians was 1.15 per cent or 201,017 persons. The population of this religion has outpaced that of Islam within the last 10 years and edged the latter to the third position.

With a proportion of 16.55 per cent, Sundargarh district has the largest percentage of Christians. None of the other 12 districts comes anywhere near this figure. Baudh-Khondmals district with 6.53 per cent has less than half the proportion of Christian population of Sundargarh and yet comes second, while Koraput (2.99 per cent) and Ganjam (2.02 per cent) with a relatively low proportion come next. The Christian population in the other districts is not very significant.

Islam

Islam, numerically the third most important religion in our state in 1971, has a relatively high concentration in the districts of Balasore (3.77 per cent), Cuttack (3.48 per cent), Sundargarh (2.19 per cent) and Puri (1.98 per cent). The followers of this religion in the other districts of the state are numerically insignificant; they constitute less than one per cent of the population of these districts. Boudh-Khondmals, Dhenkanal, Bolangir, Kalahandi and Ganjam districts particularly have a very low proportion of Muslim population.

These are the important religions of the state having the largest following. *Sarna* religion appears to have taken the fourth place with a following of 91,857 persons representing 0.42 per cent of the population of the state. Sikhism, Buddhism and Jainism have very few followers as we have already seen. Together, these three religions contribute 0.11 per cent of the population of the state.

Sikhism

The number of Sikhs in the state has increased from 5,030 in 1961 to 10,204 in 1971

a growth of 102·9 per cent, which is very high indeed. The maximum number of Sikhs are found in the districts of Sundargarh (4,597) and Sambalpur (1,531). The rest are almost evenly distributed among the remaining districts.

Buddhism

Buddhism as a religion in Orissa was nothing more than nominal in 1961 with a following of 454 persons. The number went up to 8,462 by 1971. The bulk of Buddhists are concentrated in Cuttack (4,646) and Ganjam (2,762) districts.

Jainism

Jainism, with 6,521 adherents in 1971 has also registered a significant increase of 184 per cent over the figure of 1961 (2,295). Jains are mostly found in the districts of Bolangir (2,195) and Kalahandi (1,388).

Distribution of Religions in the Rural and Urban areas

We may now proceed to look at the composition of religions in Orissa for the rural and urban areas separately. See Tables 7.6 and 7.7 which present respectively the

state's and districts' proportion of population under religions separately by rural and urban.

Table 7.6

Name of Religion		Per cent to total population	
		Rural areas	Urban areas
1		2	3
Buddhism	..	0.04	0.03
Christianity	..	1.61	2.96
Hinduism	..	96.74	90.90
Islam	..	1.13	5.41
Jainism	..	0.01	0.21
Sikhism	..	0.01	0.46
Other religions and Persua- sions		0.46	0.02
Religion not stated	..	N	0.01
Total	..	100.00	100.00

N stands for Negligible.

Table 7.7

Name of District	Per cent to total Rural/total Urban population of the district						
	Buddhism		Christianity		Hinduism		
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Sambalpur	N	0.02	1.41	1.99	98.27	93.80	
Sundargarh	N	0.07	18.66	9.59	79.55	83.02	
Keonjhar	N	0.04	0.16	1.81	99.25	93.29	
Mayurbhanj	N	..	0.13	0.57	92.84	94.27	
Balasore	..	0.01	0.09	1.18	97.35	74.04	
Cuttack	0.13	0.05	0.04	1.81	96.90	88.01	
Dhenkanal	0.02	N	0.05	0.55	99.81	95.60	
Baudh-Khandmals	N	..	6.69	1.38	93.15	96.10	
Bolangir	..	0.04	0.77	2.54	99.00	94.02	
Kalahandi	N	N	0.28	0.69	99.53	93.33	
Koraput	0.01	0.02	2.68	6.41	97.09	91.11	
Ganjam	0.13	0.01	2.14	1.11	97.61	97.28	
Puri	N	0.02	0.05	0.97	98.08	95.65	

N stands for Negligible.

Table 7.7—*Concd.*

Name of District	Percent to total Rural/total Urban population of the district									
	Islam		Jainism		Sikhism		Other religions and persuasions			
	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural	Urban	Urban	
1	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	15	
Sambalpur	0.30	3.53	N	0.06	0.02	0.57	..	..	..	
Sundargarh	1.22	5.39	N	0.22	0.09	1.61	0.39	0.09	0.09	
Keonjhar	0.51	3.60	..	N	0.01	1.26	0.07	0.07	N	
Mayurbhanj	0.68	4.67	0.06	0.06	N	0.04	6.29	0.39	0.39	
Balasore	2.56	24.57	N	0.13	N	0.06	N	0.01	N	
Cuttack	2.93	9.78	N	0.13	N	0.20	..	..	N	
Dhenkanal	0.11	3.42	..	0.01	0.01	0.42	..	..	..	
Baudh-Khondmals	0.16	2.52	..	..	N	..	..	..	..	
Bolangir	0.13	2.08	0.10	1.19	N	0.13	..	..	..	
Kalahandi	0.14	2.93	0.03	1.96	N	1.09	..	..	N	
Koraput	0.19	2.08	0.01	0.22	0.02	0.14	..	..	..	
Ganjam	0.12	1.56	..	0.01	N	0.03	..	..	..	
Puri	1.86	3.09	0.01	0.02	N	0.24	..	..	0.01	

You would notice that the followers of **Hinduism** in rural areas constitute 96·74 per cent of the total rural population while those living in urban areas form 90·90 per cent of the total urban population. The position is much the same among the districts barring Sundargarh, Mayurbhanj and Baudh-Khondmals, where the proportion of Hindus living in the urban areas is relatively high. In the case of Sundargarh, the proportion of Hindu population in the rural areas is conspicuously low at 79·55 per cent. We will presently examine why this is so.

Considered for the whole state, **Christians** account for 2·96 per cent of urban population and 1·61 per cent of the rural population. The followers of Christianity thus seem to preponderate mostly in urban areas except in the districts of Sundargarh, Baudh-Khondmals and Ganjam. In these three districts, the percentage of Christians in the rural areas is higher at 18·66, 6·69 and 2·14 respectively, while the percentage in the urban areas is much less. A bulk of the Christian population in these three tribal districts appear to be Adibasis. This relatively large concentration of Christian population might be the outcome of the

proselytising activities favoured by Christianity. So far as the other districts are concerned, Christian population is mainly urban and generally consists of the non-agricultural classes.

Muslims, like Christians, are mostly concentrated in the urban areas of the state, where they comprise 5.41 per cent of the urban population. In rural areas for the state as a whole, their proportion is 1.13 per cent of the rural population. In 4 districts, viz., Cuttack, Balasore, Puri and Sundargarh the proportion of rural Muslim population accounts for more than 1 per cent of the total rural population, the highest being in Cuttack district (2.93 per cent). The proportion of urban Muslims is generally between 2 per cent and 10 per cent excepting in Balasore district where it is as high as 24.57 per cent. In the urban areas of Cuttack and Sundargarh districts also, the percentage is fairly high. The followers of this religion, as you would have observed, mostly represent the small trading class in the towns.

Jainism also appears to be mainly a religion of the urban people. Taken for the state as a whole, Jains represent 0.01 per cent of the rural population and 0.21 per cent of

the urban population. The followers of this religion are mainly confined to the well-to-do merchant class who inhabit towns and large villages.

Sikhs are also mostly to be found in urban areas only where they comprise 0.46 per cent of population. In the rural areas their number is very small representing 0.01 per cent of the population.

We are now in a position to conclude that in the rural areas, the predominant religion is Hinduism. In towns too, it is the principal religion but its proportion is slightly less than in the rural areas. Other religions like Christianity, Islam, Jainism and Sikhism show a rising trend, their numbers being mostly confined to urban areas.

Religious Composition of Some Large Towns of Orissa

While on the subject, it is as well that we take a look at the religious composition of some towns of Orissa. Table 7.8 brings out position clearly indicating the proportion of followers of each important religion to the total population.

It would be interesting to note that out of four cities, Berhampur and Bhubaneswar have a much larger proportion of Hindu population while the other religious groups are numerically nominal. In the other two cities, viz., Rourkela and Cuttack the distribution is somewhat more varied. In Cuttack, followers of Hinduism constitute 86.11 per cent while the followers of Islam are fairly high at 11.05 per cent. Christians account for 2.40 per cent. In Rourkela city, while the percentage of Hindus at 88.37 is higher than that of Cuttack city, Christian population at 6 per cent is also higher and the Muslim population is lower at 3.20 per cent. Rourkela city also has a fairly good representation of the followers of other religions compared to other towns.

The religious composition in Sambalpur and Puri, the two class II towns in the state is somewhat different. The percentage of Hindus in Sambalpur stands at 90.70 while that of Muslims is 6.88. The proportion of Christians in this town is 1.41 per cent and that of Sikhs a little less than 1 per cent. The followers of other religions in this town are almost negligible. The population of the pilgrim town of Puri is overwhelmingly Hindu so much so their proportion stands at 98.52 per cent of the total population of the town. The proportion of Muslims is a little

Table

Name of Town	Population 1971	Percentage of population in		
		Hinduism	Christi- anity	Islam
1	2	3	4	5
Cuttack City ..	194,068	86·11	2·40	11·05
Rourkela City .. (Steel Township)	125,426	88·37	6·00	3·20
Rourkela Civil Township	47,076	82·98	4·50	10·02
Berhampur City ..	117,662	96·53	1·22	2·15
Bhubaneswar City ..	105,491	95·89	0·78	2·77
Sambalpur ..	64,675	90·70	1·41	6·88
Puri ..	72,674	98·52	0·54	0·91
Balasore ..	46,239	80·06	2·29	17·31
Bhadrak ..	40,487	60·57	0·23	39·08
Bolangir ..	35,748	93·14	5·40	1·33
Jeypore ..	34,319	91·72	4·72	2·77
Brajrajnagar ..	31,817	95·18	3·08	1·20
Jatni ..	25,119	88·11	2·85	8·96
Baripada ..	28,725	93·87	0·54	5·38
Birmitrapur ..	28,063	66·21	27·88	4·89
Sunabeda ..	27,980	91·65	7·55	0·50
Parlakhemundi ..	26,917	98·23	0·85	0·92
Rayagada ..	25,064	93·02	4·23	2·67
Jharsuguda ..	24,727	91·75	2·94	4·63
Barbil ..	24,342	86·41	3·73	6·42
Chowdwar ..	24,300	94·91	2·21	2·66
Bhawanipatna ..	22,808	95·33	0·81	2·82
Bargarh ..	22,865	96·47	1·05	2·22
Rajgangpur ..	21,876	69·43	20·11	9·26
Koraput ..	21,505	89·53	9·30	0·88
Kendrapara ..	20,079	74·77	0·04	25·19

N stands for Negligible.

7.8

each religion to total population

Sikhism	Buddhism	Jainism	Other religions and persuasions	Religion not stated
6	7	8	9	10
0.19	0.04	0.19	N	0.02
2.20	0.10	0.08	0.03	0.02
1.58	0.01	0.87	0.03	0.01
0.06	0.03	0.01	..	..
0.49	0.03	0.02	0.02	..
0.85	0.02	0.04	..	0.10
0.02	N	0.01	N	..
0.06	0.02	0.25	..	0.01
0.07	0.01	0.03	0.01	..
0.07		0.06	..	.
0.27	..	0.52	..	..
0.50	..	0.04	..	..
N	0.06	0.02	..	..
0.03	..	N	0.17	0.01
0.33	0.06	0.04	0.59	.
0.20	0.01	0.04	.	0.05
..	..	..	..	..
0.06	0.01	0.01	..	..
0.48	..	0.20	..	..
3.34	0.10	..	..	..
0.17	0.03	0.02	..	..
0.93	N	0.11	N	..
0.19	0.04	0.03	..	..
1.07	0.02	0.11	N	..
0.15	0.03	0.11	..	..
..	..	..	..	..

under 1 per cent while that of Christians is 0·54 per cent. The followers of other religions are negligible. Incidentally, you may notice that Puri has the highest proportion of Hindus among all the towns mentioned in the list.

A common feature among the non-city towns with a few exceptions is that the followers of Hinduism generally form a much higher proportion than in the cities. The proportion of other religious groups in these towns is rather insignificant. Let us take a few cases showing a more varied pattern of distribution. The religious composition of Bhadrak town in the district of Balasore attracts attention. The proportion of Hindus in this town is as low as 60·57 per cent, perhaps the lowest for any town in Orissa. Muslims form the next highest religious group here with a proportion of 39·08 per cent of its population which again constitutes the highest proportion for any town. Other religious groups are almost negligible.

Take the case of Rajgangpur. This industrial town has a representation from nearly all religions. Hindus and Christians are the two dominant religious groups in this town contributing 69·43 per cent and 20·11 per cent to the population respectively. The

proportion of Muslim population is also relatively high at 9·26 per cent. There are also some Sikhs, Buddhists and Jains in this town.

Kendrapara town has a rather peculiar distribution. Its inhabitants are divided into Hindus (74·77 per cent) and Muslims (25·19 per cent) with a few Christians (0·04 per cent). Other religious groups just do not exist in this town.

The distribution of different religious groups in Balasore town is more varied. While Hinduism predominates with a following of 80·06 per cent of the town population, Islam has a fair share with 17·31 per cent. There are a few followers of other religions like Christianity (2·29 per cent), Sikhism (0·06 per cent), Buddhism (0·02 per cent) and Jainism (0·25 per cent).

Jatni and Barbil towns with a commercial background show a fair representation of other religions besides a large majority of Hindus.

What inference is possible from the above analysis? Generally, urban areas have a greater variety of religious groups. This diversity depends more on the functional character of the town than on its size. We have seen that service towns like Bhubaneswar and Berhampur though classified as cities,

have a very high proportion of the predominant religious communities while the followers of other religions are few. On the other hand, towns with industrial, mining and commercial background like Rourkela, Birmitrapur, Jatni, etc., which attract workers from different parts of the country, have a good representation from other religions besides Hinduism.

Trends of Population of Three Major Religions during the past Decades

It might be interesting to have a second look at the three important religions of our state, viz., Hinduism, Christianity and Islam and see how they behaved during the past two decades.

The following table shows the **Hindu** population in Orissa in 1951, 1961 and 1971 and its percentage to total population.

Table 7.9

Year		Total Hindu population	Percentage to total population
1		2	3
1951	..	14,318,411	97.76
1961	..	17,123,194	97.57
1971	..	21,121,056	96.25

The rate of growth of Hindu population in the decade 1951—1961 was 19·59 per cent as against the general growth rate of population of 19·82 per cent. In the next decade, it was 23·35 per cent as against the general population growth rate of 25·05 per cent. In both decades, the growth of Hindu population has tended to be slightly less than the general growth rate of population; in absolute numbers the increase was by over 28 lakhs in the decade 1951—1961 and nearly 40 lakhs in the last 10 years.

The variation in the **Muslim** population in Orissa over the last two decades may be seen from the following table.

Table 7.10

Year	Total Muslim population	Percentage to total population
1	2	3
1951	176,338	1·20
1961	215,319	1·23
1971	326,507	1·49

The proportion of Muslim population to the total population of our state appears to have registered a slightly faster increase over these past 20 years from 1·20 per cent in 1951

to 1.49 per cent in 1971. The increase in population between 1951 and 1961 in absolute numbers was 38,981, the rate of growth being 22.11 per cent. In the next decade, viz., 1961 to 1971, the followers of Islam went up from 215,319 to 326,507—an increase of 111,188, the rate of growth being 51.64 per cent. This rate is much higher than that of the preceding decade, viz., 1951—61 though in absolute numbers the increase is perhaps nominal. Among the reasons which experts ascribe to this relatively high growth rate are the institution of multiple marriage, widow remarriage as also the possibility that Islam views birth control with a certain degree of disfavour. There could be other reasons as well but this is a realm for experts and is beyond the scope of our present study.

The following table shows the increase in **Christian** population during the last 20 years in Orissa.

Table 7.11

Year	Total Christian population	Percentage to total population
1	2	3
1951	.. 141,934	0.97
1961	.. 201,017	1.15
1971	.. 378,888	1.73

The above figures show that the overall proportion of Christians to the total population of state went up from 0.97 per cent in 1951 to 1.73 per cent in 1971. The increase in the decade 1951—1961 in absolute numbers was 59,083, the rate of growth being 41.63 per cent. In the next decade, viz., 1961—1971, the Christian population went up by 177,871 registering a growth of 88.49 per cent. This increase has been high enough to make Christianity numerically the second principal religion in our state. One important reason for this high growth rate could be the evangelical activities favoured by Christianity.

While considering these growth rates, we should not lose sight of the fact that percentages sometimes tend to blur the perspective. This is specially so when the outlay is very small. Even a little increase, in such a case gets reflected in high percentages. When the outlay is large, even a fairly high increase appears small expressed in percentages. The truth of this statement becomes obvious when we look at the growth rates and the actual numbers of the numerically less important religions like Sikhism, Buddhism and Jainism.

Concluding, we may observe that the predominant religion in Orissa is Hinduism claiming more than 96 per cent of the population. The pre-eminence of this religion is all

the greater in the rural areas. The other religions, namely, Christianity, Islam, Sikhism, Buddhism and Jainism command a relatively small following in our state. The proportion of these religions in the urban areas is slightly higher than in the rural areas, barring Buddhism which has a slightly larger proportion in the rural areas. A comparative newcomer into the field is the faith called Sarna which originated in the district of Mayurbhanj and is slowly spreading.

8

SCHEDULED CASTES AND TRIBES

Who are the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes ?

THE SCHEDULED CASTES or the Scheduled Tribes, as the name denotes, are the castes or tribes listed in the schedule to the order by the President under the Constitution of India. If you refer to Articles 341 and 342 of the Constitution, you will notice that the President of India is empowered to specify the list of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes for each State and Union Territory. In accordance with the provisions of these Articles, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes are listed under a Presidential order for each

state or local area. Only these communities are entitled to be enumerated at a census as scheduled castes or scheduled tribes in those areas.

Origin of Scheduled Castes

You might be more or less familiar with the institution of caste, or what is generally called the caste system in our country. Caste in India is a social institution which derives sanction from and is inextricably intertwined with the Hindu religion. There were originally three main castes, viz., Brahmana, Kshatriya and Vaisya and the persons belonging to these castes were called 'twice-born'. It was only they who were believed to have the right and duty to perform certain ritual ceremonies. The Sudras, however, were put below the Vaisyas and were mainly menials and servants. They were assigned no rank. All these four castes were Arya or the Aryan-speaking people. With the growth of population, from out of these four main castes emerged hundreds of sub-castes.

The untouchable section of the Sudra caste constitutes a fifth outer group, sometimes referred to as exterior castes. For ages, these exterior or depressed classes suffered various socio-economic and political disabilities in the hands of the higher castes. The worst affected are the so-called 'untouchables'—contact with whom is believed to

result in pollution. In some states, there were also castes of 'unseeables' seeing whom would pollute a 'twice-born'. The untouchables were forbidden from drawing water from a common well or from entering into the village temple. These exterior or depressed castes are not 'depressed' in all states. The same caste may be depressed in one state but may not be suffering from any socio-economic or political disability in another.*

Till 1935, these castes were generally known as the depressed classes. Dr. J. H. Hutton, the Census Commissioner of India in 1931, for the first time, systematically listed these depressed classes. But the term 'Scheduled Castes' appeared for the first time in the Government of India Act, 1935. The British Government issued in April, 1936 the Government of India (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1936. The list contained in this order was only a continuation of the list of depressed classes prepared by Dr. Hutton. As stated earlier, with the Constitution of India coming into force, the list of scheduled castes for each state was notified by the President in accordance with Article 341 of the Constitution.

* D. N. Majumdar and T. N. Madan— An Introduction to Social Anthropology

Scheduled Tribes

As for scheduled tribes, they are a fascinating and colourful people whose origin is wrapped in a shroud of hoary antiquity. Comprising numerous tribal communities, some of them still maintain their primitive social customs and rituals. Their remote habitations in deep woods and on high hills, their occupational pursuit of food gathering and hunting in forests, their scant clothing and primitive way of living, their innocence, charm and simplicity and above all, their continuous alienation for ages from the social mainstream have woven round them queer myths and legends and weird anecdotes of sorcery, black art and magic. Some have called them 'Autochthones'—the true sons of the soil. Others say that they are an integral part of the Indian social milieu and heritage. Whatever be their racial origin, these scheduled tribes commonly known as Adibasis who constitute a good part of our population have continued to remain in a state of social, educational and economic backwardness for ages.

These tribal communities received special mention for the first time in the Government of India Act, 1935 where a reference was made to the 'backward tribes'. Certain

tribes were specified as backward in the then provinces of Assam, Bihar, Bombay, Central Provinces, Madras and Orissa as per the Thirteenth Schedule to the Government of India (Provincial Legislative Assemblies) Order, 1936. The specification of tribes and tribal communities as 'Scheduled Tribes' was finally made in the Constitution of India.

Here it may be of interest to you to know that the census organisation of this country had done some pioneering work in this regard by initiating studies on these tribal communities as early as in 1901. It is said that when Sir Herbert Risley took the Census of India in 1901, "he not only numbered the heads of the population, but also sought to determine what kind of heads they were."* Dr. J. H. Hutton, the Census Commissioner of India in 1931 resolved to continue and extend the anthropological investigations initiated by Sir Risley. It is Dr. Hutton who made the first serious attempt to list these primitive tribes at the Census of 1931.

The lists of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes notified by the President in 1950 were revised by the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Order (Amendment)

* S. S. Sarkar—The Aboriginal Races of India

Act, 1956. With the reorganisation of states in 1956, the orders were further modified by the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Lists (Modification) Order, 1956. According to the lists notified for our state, there are 93 scheduled castes and 62 scheduled tribes.

Constitutional Safeguards and Welfare of Backward Classes

After attainment of independence and with the Constitution of India coming into force, promotion of the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people particularly of the scheduled castes and the scheduled tribes became the primary responsibility of the state.

There are many provisions in our Constitution which apply to all the citizens of India, but acquire a special significance when viewed in the context of tribal and other backward communities. The Preamble to the Constitution resolves to secure to all its citizens justice, liberty, equality and fraternity. Among the directive principles of state policy, Article 46 of the Constitution lays down that the state shall promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people and in particular of the scheduled castes and

scheduled tribes and shall protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation.

Apart from these general provisions there are some special provisions laid down in our Constitution to safeguard the interest of the scheduled tribes and scheduled castes. Article 164 provides for a Ministry of Tribal Welfare in each of the states of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa. The Department of Tribal Welfare in our state is there in pursuance of this provision. Article 244 provides for the inclusion of a fifth schedule which incorporates provisions for the administration of scheduled areas and tribes of states.

The scheduled areas of Orissa extend over one-third of the state with an area of 22,014 sq. miles. The area covers the entire districts of Koraput, Sundargarh, Mayurbhanj, Baliguda and Khondmals subdivisions of Baudh-Khondmals district and a part of Ganjam agency.* Grant of special funds by the Central Government to State Governments for promoting the welfare of the scheduled tribes and for providing them with better administration are laid down in Article 275. Articles 330 and 332 reserve seats for

* Tribal Research Bureau, Orissa —The Tribes of Orissa

scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in the House of the People and State Legislatures respectively. Article 335 assures that scheduled castes and tribes be given special attention while filling posts in the services. It is incumbent on all employers to reserve a certain percentage of vacancies for the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. The constitution also provides for appointment of a special officer for the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes and for appointment of a Commission to investigate the conditions of backward classes in general and suggest ameliorative measures.

As already indicated, such of the communities as were included in the list notified for our state were entitled to be enumerated as scheduled castes or scheduled tribes at the census. For this, each enumerator was furnished with a copy of the approved list pertaining to our state with reference to which he recorded the name of the scheduled caste or scheduled tribe as returned by the respondent. The enumerator was cautioned against writing the names of scheduled castes or scheduled tribes in general terms as Harijan or Adibasi. He was specially instructed to ascertain the correct name of the scheduled caste or the scheduled tribe and only if it found place in the notified list, it was to be recorded in the Individual Slip.

According to 1971 Census, 91 castes (including Kuli in Sambalpur district) accounting for a total population of 3,310,854 and 62 tribes with a population of 5,071,937 were returned in the state.

With this background, we may look into the distribution of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in our state, their growth rate and other characteristics as compared to the all-India average.

Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Population in Orissa

The total population of scheduled castes in Orissa according to 1971 Census is 3.31 million. This makes 15.09 per cent of the total population of the state and is a little higher than the corresponding figure of 14.60 per cent for India as a whole. The scheduled tribes are 5.07 million in number and constitute 23.11 per cent of the total population of the state. The corresponding all-India proportion is 6.94 per cent.

In 1961 the state average was 15.75 per cent for scheduled castes and 24.07 per cent for scheduled tribes as against the comparable all-India figure of 14.68 per cent in case of the scheduled castes and 6.86 per cent for scheduled tribes. The comparative position will be clear from the following Table 8.1.

Table 8.1

Country/ State	Percentage of scheduled castes to total population		Percentage of scheduled tribes to total population	
	1971	1961	1971	1961
1	2	3	4	5
India ..	14.60	14.68	6.94	6.86
Orissa ..	15.09	15.75	23.11	24.07

It would be seen that while at the all-India level the proportion of scheduled castes to total population has slightly gone down by 0.08 and that of scheduled tribes improved by the same 0.08 in case of our state, the percentage has diminished for both the castes and the tribes by 0.66 in case of the former and 0.96 in case of the latter.

While this is the position with regard to the variation in percentage of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes to the total population in 1961 and 1971, let us see how the population of these communities in absolute numbers has grown during this decade (1961—71). The following Table 8.2 brings out the situation for our state.

Table 8.2

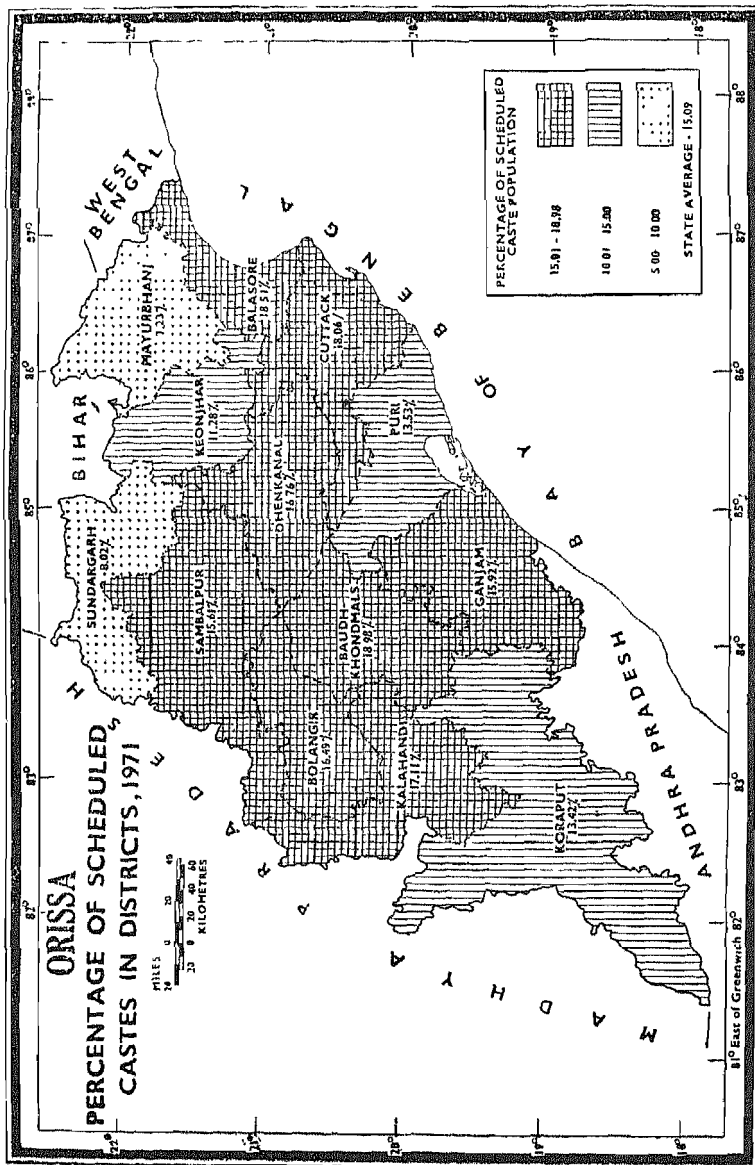
S.C./S.T.	1961	1971	Net increase
1	2	3	4
Scheduled Castes	2,763,858	3,310,854	546,996
Scheduled Tribes	4,223,757	5,071,937	848,180

In terms of growth rate it is 19·79 per cent in case of scheduled castes and 20·08 per cent in case of scheduled tribes during the decade 1961—71 as against the growth rate of the state's general population of 25·05 per cent.

How are the castes and tribes distributed in the districts and what is their proportion to total population as revealed in 1961 and 1971 censuses ?

Distribution of Scheduled Castes in Districts

We may take up the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes separately. The position regarding the scheduled castes is set out in Table 8.3. You will notice from a study of this table that the distribution of scheduled castes is fairly even in all the districts barring two, viz., Sundargarh and Mayurbhanj where their proportion in both the 1961 and 1971 censuses is very low. The pattern of distribution among the districts remains the same in 1961 and 1971. The proportion of scheduled castes is higher than the state



average in case of the same eight districts and lower than the state average in the same five districts in both the censuses. In 1971, Baudh-Khondmals with its scheduled caste population forming 18.98 per cent of its total population heads the list, closely followed by Balasore (18.51 per cent) and Cuttack (18.06 per cent). This district (Baudh-Khondmals) was also the first among the districts in 1961 with 19.32 per cent. Kalahandi with 18.94 per cent was second in rank among the districts in 1961; it has come down to the fourth place (17.11 per cent) in 1971. On the contrary, Balasore, which in 1961 (18.84 per cent) was third among the districts has elevated its position to the second place in 1971 with 18.51 per cent. Similarly Cuttack has improved its status to the third place in 1971 with 18.06 per cent from the fifth place it occupied in 1961 with 17.90 per cent.

Reckoned against the total scheduled caste population of the state, about one-fifth (20.88 per cent) inhabit Cuttack district, while nearly one-tenth live in each of the districts of Ganjam (11.03 per cent), Balasore (10.23 per cent) and Puri (9.57 per cent).

If we compare the proportion of scheduled castes to total population by districts as between 1961 and 1971 (see Cols. 5 and 6 of Table 8.3) we notice that it has invariably gone down in all districts except two, viz.,

Cuttack and Koraput. The highest loss is recorded in case of Keonjhar (2.57 points) followed by Kalahandi (1.83 points), Sundargarh (1.62 points), Dhenkanal and Mayurbhanj (1.43 points each) and Bolangir (1.05 points). In case of five other districts, the loss is less than 1 point. Cuttack and Koraput have, however, shown up a marginal increase of the order of 0.16 point in case of the former and 0.76 point in case of the latter.

*Growth rate of Scheduled Caste
Population (1961--71)*

In terms of the percentage increase of the scheduled caste population, i.e., the growth rate during the last decade, it is observed that in case of one district, viz., Mayurbhanj, the scheduled caste population has gone down by 560 resulting in a growth rate of (—) 0.54 per cent. Among other districts, a growth rate exceeding that of the state (19.79 per cent) has been recorded by three districts, viz., Koraput (38.71 per cent), Balasore (27.01 per cent) and Cuttack (26.15 per cent) while the growth rate for Puri (19.73 per cent) is slightly below the rate recorded for the state. The growth rate recorded by Keonjhar district is the lowest (4.70 per cent) next to Mayurbhanj. In the rest of the districts, the percentage increase varies between 11.05 (Kalahandi) and 18.70 (Baudh-Khondmals).

Table 8.3

State/District	Scheduled Caste Population					
	Population		Growth rate (1961-71)	Percentage to total population		
	1961	1971		1961	1971	
1	2	3	4	5	6	
ORISSA	2,763,858	3,310,854	+19.79	15.75	15.09	
Sambalpur	244,985	287,998	+17.56	16.24	15.61	
Sundargarh	73,134	82,692	+13.07	9.64	8.02	
Keonjhar	102,942	107,784	+4.70	13.85	11.28	
Mayurbhanj	104,273	103,713	-0.54	8.66	7.23	
Balasore	266,754	338,802	+27.01	18.84	18.51	
Cuttack	547,922	691,180	+26.15	17.90	18.06	

Table 8.3—*Concl'd.*

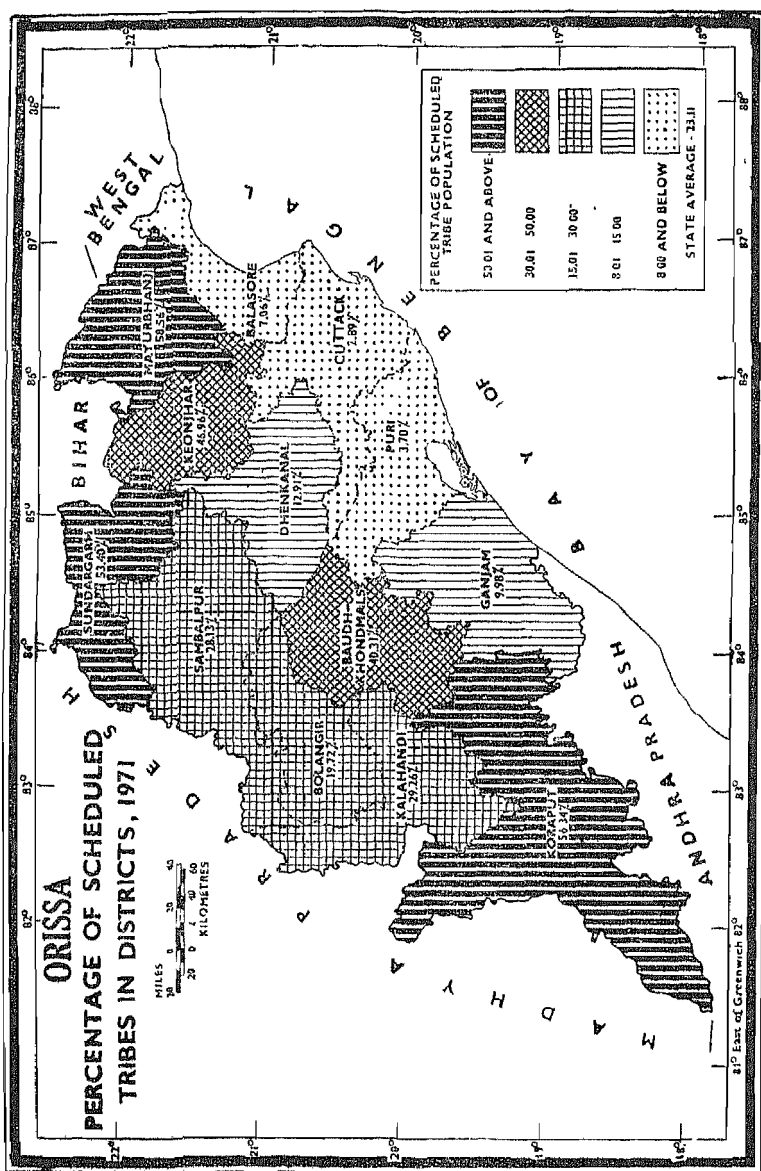
State/District	Scheduled Caste Population					Percentage to total population
	Population		Growth rate (1961-71)	Percentage to total population		
	1961	1971		1961	1971	
I	2	3	4	5	6	
Dhenkanal	187,156	216,887	+15.89	18.19	16.76	
Baugh-Khondmals	99,399	117,987	+18.70	19.32	18.98	
Bolangir	187,422	208,430	+11.21	17.54	16.49	
Kalahandi	179,340	199,151	+11.05	18.94	17.11	
Koraput	197,618	274,115	+38.71	12.66	13.42	
Ganjam	308,298	365,284	+18.48	16.46	15.92	
Puri	264,615	316,831	+19.73	14.19	13.53	

Distribution of Scheduled Tribes in Districts

Unlike scheduled castes, the distribution of scheduled tribe population among the districts is greatly uneven. The scheduled tribes are in much larger proportion to the total district population compared to the state average of 23·11 per cent in districts like Mayurbhanj (58·56 per cent), Koraput (56·34 per cent), Sundargarh (53·40 per cent), Keonjhar (46·96 per cent) and Baudh-Khondmals (40·31 per cent). Their proportion is the lowest in the districts of Cuttack (2·89 per cent) and Puri (3·70 per cent), while it is somewhat better in Balasore (7·06 per cent) and Ganjam (9·98 per cent).

Taking the total scheduled tribe population of the state as a whole, Koraput district alone contains more than one-fifth, Mayurbhanj about one-sixth, Sambalpur and Sundargarh more than one-tenth each. These four districts taken together account for about 60 per cent of the state's total tribal population.

Comparing the percentage of tribal population to total population by districts between 1961 and 1971, it has gone down in case of ten districts while there has been a marginal increase in case of Balasore (0·28 point), Cuttack and Puri (0·08 point each).



The highest loss is noticed in case of Koraput (4.79 points) followed by Sundargarh (4.72 points) and Mayurbhanj (2.05 points).

Koraput which was the first among the districts in 1961 in its proportion of scheduled tribes to general population occupies the second place in 1971. The first place in 1971 has gone to Mayurbhanj which occupied the second place in 1961. Except these two districts the rest of the districts have maintained their *inter se* position in both 1961 and 1971.

Growth rate of Scheduled Tribe Population (1961—71)

In terms of growth rate during the decade 1961—71, the performance of seven districts as would be seen from the Table 8.4 is higher than that of the state (20.08 per cent). These districts are Balasore (34.57 per cent), Cuttack (28.98 per cent), Puri (28.33 per cent), Keonjhar (28.05 per cent), Sundargarh (24.83 per cent), Ganjam (21.78 per cent) and Koraput (20.63 per cent). The lowest rate is recorded by Bolangir (12.77 per cent). This shows that the scheduled tribes in the first four districts, viz., Balasore, Cuttack, Puri and Keonjhar are multiplying at a faster rate than the general population of the state.

Table 8.4

State/District	Scheduled Tribe Population					
	Population		Growth rate (1961-71)	Percentage to total population		
	1961	1971		1961	1971	
	1	2	3	4	5	6
ORISSA	..	4,223,757	5,071,937	+20.08	24.07	23.11
Sambalpur	..	439,405	519,046	+18.12	29.13	28.13
Sundargarh	..	440,910	550,401	+24.83	58.12	53.40
Keonjhar	..	350,389	448,675	+28.05	47.14	46.96
Mayurbhanj	..	729,764	839,835	+15.08	60.61	58.56
Balasore	..	96,007	129,192	+34.57	6.73	7.06
Cuttack	..	85,863	110,746	+28.98	2.81	2.89

1	2	3	4	5	6	
Dhenkanal	..	143,484	166,998	+16.39	13.94	12.91
Baudh-Khondmals	..	214,067	250,605	+17.07	41.61	40.31
Bolangir	..	220,916	249,131	+12.77	20.67	19.72
Kalahandi	..	293,139	340,541	+16.17	30.96	29.26
Koraput	..	954,338	1,151,231	+20.63	61.13	56.34
Ganjam	..	188,001	228,945	+21.78	10.04	9.98
Puri	..	67,474	86,591	+28.33	3.62	3.70

It is interesting to observe that the three costal districts, i. e., Cuttack, Puri and Balasore whose proportion of scheduled tribes to total district population is among the lowest : 2·89 per cent in case of Cuttack, 3·70 per cent in Puri and 7·06 per cent in Balasore—feature as the first three districts from point of view of their growth rate performance. In case of Mayurbhanj which has the highest proportion of scheduled tribes to its total population (58·56 per cent), the growth rate is as low as 15·08 per cent and is not within the first eleven districts from point of view of growth rate. Various factors might be responsible for the varying pattern of the incidence and growth rate of population of these communities in the different districts as revealed by the foregoing analysis. These, among other aspects bearing on the socio-economic life of the scheduled castes/scheduled tribes come within the province of anthropologists and research bodies.

Sex Ratio of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes

What is the sex ratio among the scheduled castes and the scheduled tribes? Is it any different from the pattern observed in the general population? See Table 8.5.

Table 8·5

Year		Scheduled Castes	Scheduled Tribes	General population
1		2	3	4
1971	..	993	1,007	988
1961	..	1,015	1,016	1,001

Among scheduled castes, the sex ratio was 1,015 in 1961 as against 1,001 for the general population of the state. In 1971, it has gone down to 993 against 988 for the state. Similarly among the scheduled tribes, the sex ratio which was 1,016 in 1961 has dropped to 1,007 in 1971. You will notice that though the general trend of declining females is marked both among the general population and the scheduled castes and tribes, it has not gone below 1,000 mark in case of the tribes.

Rural-Urban Distribution

Let us see if the distribution of scheduled castes and tribes in the rural and urban areas is in keeping with the pattern of distribution of the general population of the state. A look at Table 8·6 will show that compared to the general population the scheduled castes are in greater proportion in the rural

areas and in lesser proportion in the urban areas. As against 91.59 per cent of the general population dwelling in rural areas, 93.73 per cent of the scheduled castes live in the rural areas. In contrast, in the urban areas of the state, against 8.41 per cent of the total population living in urban areas, the proportion of scheduled castes is 6.27 per cent.

Table 8.6

State/District	Percentage of scheduled caste rural/urban population to total scheduled caste population	
	Rural	Urban
1	2	3
ORISSA ..	93.73	6.27
Sambalpur ..	89.43	10.57
Sundargarh ..	77.41	22.59
Keonjhar ..	91.87	8.13
Mayurbhanj ..	95.88	4.12
Balasore ..	97.74	2.26
Cuttack ..	95.32	4.68
Dhenkanal ..	96.88	3.12
Baudh-Khondmals ..	96.86	3.14
Bolangir ..	94.75	5.25
Kalahandi ..	95.36	4.64
Koraput ..	92.33	7.67
Ganjam ..	90.63	9.37
Puri ..	93.83	6.17

If the proportion of scheduled castes in the urban areas is low, it is much lower in case of the scheduled tribes. About 97·09 per cent of the scheduled tribes dwell in the rural areas and only 2·91 per cent live in the urban areas. Table 8.7 gives the rural-urban distribution of scheduled tribe population in the state and districts.

Table 8.7

State/District	Percentage of scheduled tribe rural/urban population to total scheduled tribe population	
	Rural	Urban
1	2	3
ORISSA ..	97·09	2·91
Sambalpur ..	95·01	4·99
Sundargarh ..	91·78	8·22
Keonjhar ..	95·41	4·59
Mayurbhanj ..	99·57	0·43
Balasore ..	95·70	4·30
Cuttack ..	96·55	3·45
Dhenkanal ..	99·54	0·46
Baudh-Khondmals ..	99·39	0·61
Bolangir ..	98·27	1·73
Kalahandi ..	98·74	1·26
Koraput ..	97·56	2·44
Ganjam ..	99·54	0·46
Puri ..	96·94	3·06

Lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

As already indicated in the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Lists (Modification) Order, 1956, 62 communities are listed as scheduled tribes and 93 communities as scheduled castes in the state of Orissa. One more caste, namely, Kuli has been added to the schedule for Sambalpur district only.

In 1971 Census, none were returned in Orissa as belonging to 3 castes, namely, Chandhai Maru, Paidi and Panka and as such population figures for only 91 castes (including Kuli) were reported. A look at Appendix I given at the end of this chapter will show that the population returned for some castes is very small and for many others very large. Among the populous castes whose population exceeds 2 lakhs each, mention may be made of Pan or Pano (672,627) Dom, Dombo or Duria Dom (370,236), Ganda (325,053), Dhoba or Dhobi (322,216), Bauri (303,460), and Kandra or Kandara (248,380).

As to scheduled tribes, all the 62 tribes listed in the order have been returned in 1971 Census. For the population of individual tribes, study Appendix II at the end of this chapter.

You will notice that the range of variation of population among the tribes is almost as wide as it is among the castes. While for the tribe Chenchu only 8 persons have been returned in 1971 Census, there are some very populous tribes whose population exceeds 2 lakhs each, viz., Khond, Kond or Kandha including Nanguli Kandha and Sitha Kandha (869,965), Gond or Gondo (499,267), Santal (452,953), Saora, Savar, Saura or Sahara (342,757), Kolha (309,588), Shabar or Lodha (240,344), Munda, Munda-Lohara or Munda-Mahalais (222,117), and Paroja (206,699).

Literacy rate among the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

The literacy rate among the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes is far too low compared to the general population. In Orissa, there are about half as many literates in any given size of the scheduled caste population as there are among the same size of general population. In percentage, the literacy rate among scheduled castes is 15.6 as compared to 26.2 per cent for the general population. As is to be expected, the rate is still lower among the scheduled caste females being 5.2 per cent only compared to the state average of female literacy at 13.9 per cent.

Literacy among scheduled tribes is still lower being 9.5 per cent. This means that there are only about one-third as many literates among say, one hundred of them as there are among the same number of general population. The literacy rate of the tribal females is a mere 2.6 per cent.

What was the literacy rate among these communities 10 years ago and how fast is literacy spreading among them? In 1961 the literacy among scheduled castes was 11.6 per cent. This has gone up to 15.6 per cent in 1971. The rate of increase is thus 34.5 per cent. Similarly, the literacy rate among scheduled tribes was 7.4 per cent in 1961 which has improved to 9.5 per cent now resulting in a growth rate of 28.4 per cent. The growth rate of literacy among both scheduled castes and scheduled tribes is higher than the state growth rate of literacy computed at 20.7 per cent—a happy augury for the castes and tribes. See Table 8.8 which gives literacy rates for 1971 and 1961 for the general population, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes of Orissa and their respective growth rates for the decade.

Occupational Pattern

Before concluding this chapter, we may briefly refer to the occupational pattern among the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in our state.

Table 8.8

Population	Literacy rate (including 0—4 age group population)									
	1961				1971				Percentage increase of literacy (1961—71)	
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Persons	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
General Population	21.7	34.7	8.6	26.2	38.3	13.9	20.7	10.4	61.6	
Scheduled Caste Population	11.6	19.8	3.4	15.6	26.0	5.2	34.5	31.3	52.9	
Scheduled Tribe Population	7.4	13.0	1.8	9.5	16.4	2.6	28.4	26.2	44.4	

The proportion of workers among the scheduled castes is 33·55 per cent while among the scheduled tribes it is 34·84 per cent. Compared to the proportion of workers in the general population which is 31·22, the position of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes appears to be slightly better. Nearly 90 per cent of the scheduled tribe workers are engaged in agriculture either as cultivators or agricultural labourers. Among the scheduled caste workers 49·21 per cent are agricultural labourers, while 27·45 per cent are cultivators. Other occupations which claim a sizeable proportion of scheduled caste workers are those like weaving, basket-making and such other household industries and scavenging. We will deal with this subject in greater detail in the next chapter.

APPENDIX I

Population of Scheduled Castes of Orissa, 1971

Sl. No.	Name of Scheduled Caste	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5
1	Adi Andhra ..	10,584	5,271	5,313
2	Amanat or Amat ..	8,765	4,471	4,294
3	Audheba ..	12	9	3
4	Badaik .	7,821	4,045	3,776
5	Bagheti or Baghuti ..	14,940	6,855	8,085
6	Bajkar ..	195	111	84
7	Barı ..	115	58	57
8	Bariki ..	13,129	6,567	6,562
9	Baser or Burud ..	34	19	15
10	Baurı ..	303,460	151,840	151,620
11	Bauti ..	122	72	50
12	Bavuri ..	2	1	1
13	Bedia or Bejia ..	1,026	516	510
14	Beldar ..	1,268	634	634
15	Bhata ..	3,346	1,654	1,692
16	Bhoi ..	30,645	15,758	14,887
17	Chachati ..	15	8	7
18	Chakali ..	157	79	78
19	Chamar, Mochi, Muchi or Satnami ..	81,314	41,422	39,892
20	Chandala ..	4,244	2,120	2,124

APPENDIX I—*Contd.*

Sl. No.	Name of Scheduled Caste	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5
21	Chetua or Chhelia ..	608	286	322
22	Dandasi ..	47,048	22,282	24,766
23	Dewar ..	3,637	1,785	1,852
24	Dhanwar ..	1,147	574	573
25	Dhoba or Dhobi ..	322,216	161,076	161,140
26	Dom, Dombo or Duria Dom ..	370,236	184,784	185,452
27	Dosadha ..	101	59	42
28	Ganda ..	325,053	163,821	161,232
29	Ghantarghada or Ghantra ..	3,358	1,639	1,719
30	Ghasi or Ghasia ..	56,330	28,235	28,095
31	Ghogia ..	629	317	312
32	Ghusuria ..	4,590	2,466	2,124
33	Godagali ..	48	27	21
34	Godari ..	72	43	29
35	Godra ..	2,784	1,419	1,365
36	Gokha ..	82,206	41,541	40,665
37	Gorait or Korait ..	342	170	172
38	Haddi, Hadi or Hari ..	101,331	50,528	50,703
39	Irika ..	158	75	83
40	Jaggali ..	4,394	2,101	2,293
41	Kandra or Kandara ..	248,380	123,866	124,514
42	Karua ..	3,799	1,905	1,894

APPENDIX I—*Contd.*

Sl. No.	Name of Scheduled Caste	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5
43	Katia ..	1,144	597	547
44	Kela ..	14,611	7,196	7,415
45	Khadala ..	30,730	14,758	15,972
46	Kodalo or Khodalo ..	8,377	4,578	3,799
47	Kori ..	197	98	99
48	Kummari ..	1,961	951	1,010
49	Kurunga ..	2,051	1,036	1,015
50	Laban ..	1,151	530	621
51	Laheri ..	3,713	1,815	1,898
52	Madari ..	1,644	755	889
53	Madiga ..	793	392	401
54	Mahuria ..	3,566	1,740	1,826
55	Mala, Jhala, Malo or Zala ..	4,629	2,179	2,450
56	Mang ..	1	1	..
57	Mangan ..	883	469	414
58	Mehra or Mahar ..	11,247	5,592	5,655
59	Mehtar or Bhangi ..	7,358	3,681	3,677
60	Mewar ..	232	119	113
61	Mundapotta ..	527	245	282
62	Musahar .	19	12	7
63	Nagarchi ..	71	46	25
64	Namasudra ..	49,796	25,883	23,913

APPENDIX I—Contd.

Sl. No.	Name of Scheduled Caste	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5
65	Painda	892	370	522
66	Pamidi	52	32	20
67	Pan or Pano	672,627	338,588	334,039
68	Panchama	383	156	227
69	Panika	8,083	4,061	4,022
70	Pantanti	43,013	21,835	21,178
71	Pap	7,211	3,551	3,660
72	Pasi	94	74	20
73	Patial, Patikar, Patra- tanti or Patua	23,481	11,675	11,806
74	Rajna	13	4	9
75	Relli	4,742	2,350	2,392
76	Sabakhia	966	458	508
77	Samasi	906	445	461
78	Sanei	574	282	292
79	Sapari	41	20	21
80	Sauntia (Santia)	19,452	9,572	9,880
81	Sidhria	506	257	249
82	Sinduria	39	20	19
83	Siyal	13,965	7,039	6,926
84	Tamadia	5,590	2,843	2,747
85	Tamudia	2,292	1,206	1,086
86	Tanla	36,921	18,091	18,830

APPENDIX I—*Concl'd.*

Sl. No.	Name of Scheduled Caste	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5
87	Tiar or Tior ..	13,490	6,777	6,713
88	Turi ..	4,698	2,412	2,286
89	Ujia .	14,488	7,205	7,283
90	Valamiki or Valmiki. .	1,423	686	737
91	Kuli (in Sambalpur District only) ..	4,086	2,011	2,075
	Unspecified ..	226,464	115,736	110,728

Note : The following three castes do not occur in the list as they have no population in 1971.

1. Chandhai Maru
2. Paidi
3. Panka

APPENDIX II

Population of Scheduled Tribes of Orissa, 1971

Sl. No.	Name of Scheduled Tribe	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5
1	Bagata ..	262	131	131
2	Baiga	92	29	63
3	Banjara or Banjari ..	6,283	3,015	3,268
4	Bathudi .	130,792	65,905	64,887
5	Bhottada or Dhotada	194,842	97,894	96,948
6	Bhuiya or Bhuyan .	188,212	92,761	95,451
7	Bhumia .	61,900	31,115	30,785
8	Bhumij ..	146,978	72,712	74,266
9	Bhunjia ..	7,410	3,510	3,900
10	Binjhal .	83,873	42,064	41,809
11	Binjhia or Binjhoa .	6,746	3,354	3,392
12	Birhor ..	98	57	41
13	Bondo Poraja ..	5,338	2,660	2,678
14	Chenchu .	8	2	6
15	Dal .	12,185	6,180	6,005
16	Desua Bhumij .	376	184	192
17	Dharua .	8,791	4,177	4,614
18	Didayi	2,164	1,131	1,033
19	Gadaba .	46,594	23,600	22,994
20	Gandia ..	2,225	1,124	1,101

APPENDIX II —*Contd.*

Sl. No.	Name of Scheduled Tribe	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5
21	Ghara ..	548	296	252
22	Gond, Gondo ..	499,267	247,231	252,036
23	Ho ..	31,916	15,894	16,022
24	Holva ..	5,728	2,818	2,910
25	Jatapu ..	8,047	3,875	4,172
26	Juang ..	24,384	11,888	12,496
27	Kandha Gauda ..	7,185	3,628	3,557
28	Kawar ..	4,119	2,084	2,035
29	Kharla or Kharian ..	120,483	59,810	60,673
30	Kharwar ..	3,234	1,573	1,661
31	Khond, Kond or Kandha, including Nanguli Kandha and Sitha Kandha	869,965	431,716	438,249
32	Kisan ..	180,025	90,769	89,256
33	Kol ..	1,033	466	567
34	Kolah-Kol-Loharas ..	12,194	5,926	6,268
35	Kolha ..	309,588	156,810	152,778
36	Koli, including Malhar	1,504	773	731
37	Kondadora ..	9,286	4,676	4,610
38	Kora ..	3,961	2,024	1,937
39	Kortua ..	3,484	1,707	1,777
40	Kotia ..	11,050	5,526	5,524

APPENDIX II--*Concl'd.*

Sl. No.	Name of Scheduled Tribe	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5
41	Koya ..	59,168	30,137	29,031
42	Kulis ..	1,893	916	977
43	Lodha ..	3,891	2,075	1,816
44	Madia ..	905	437	468
45	Mahali ..	9,617	5,116	4,501
46	Mankidi ..	333	168	165
47	Mankirdia ..	876	451	425
48	Matya ..	8,648	4,481	4,167
49	Mirdhas ..	28,447	13,728	14,719
50	Munda, Munda-Lohara or Munda-Mahalis	222,117	112,107	110,010
51	Mundari ..	17,813	8,964	8,849
52	Omanatya ..	17,671	8,710	8,961
53	Oraon ..	164,619	81,399	83,220
54	Parenga ..	3,032	1,616	1,416
55	Paroja ..	206,699	102,652	104,047
56	Pentia ..	6,266	3,093	3,173
57	Rajuar ..	1,478	759	719
58	Santal ..	452,953	225,741	227,212
59	Saora, Savar, Saura or Sahara ..	342,757	168,364	174,393
60	Shabar or Lodha ..	240,344	120,316	120,028
61	Sounti ..	55,178	27,441	27,737
62	Tharua ..	293	154	139
	Unspecified ..	214,769	106,743	108,026

9

OUR MAIN ACTIVITIES

THE POPULATION of a country can be divided into that part which is economically active and that which is inactive. The economically active group is generally referred to as the working population. What proportion of our population are engaged in work, or are economically active as we shall call them, what jobs they do, how many of them are without work and if so, what do they do for a living—these are some of the questions which we shall now try to understand in this chapter.

No aspect of a population perhaps reveals the state of the economic condition of a

country as much as its occupational composition. For this purpose every forward-looking country needs certain facts and figures about the pattern of participation in work of its population. One of the most important contributions of census is the detailed data it provides on the working population. It classifies people under different categories of workers and in doing so provides valuable information on employment status, occupation and economic composition of its people.

Who is an Economically Active Person ?

Before proceeding further it is important that we clearly understand what exactly is meant by a worker or an economically active person, and a non-worker. You may be tempted to remark, "well, one who works is a worker and who does not is a non-worker." True, but it is not all that simple to sort people into these two categories. In fact, the question as to who should be considered economically active has defied a universally acceptable definition so far. It varies from country to country and even in the same country, from census to census. In India, where an organised economy is still a long

way off, it has not been possible yet to evolve a definition once and for all. We have been making efforts to find the right definition and in the process, have had a slightly varying idea of a worker over the past decades. As a result, the data relating to workers and non-workers thrown up between one census and another have tended to lack comparability. By the same token, the proportion of 'workers' to the total population in 1971 has gone down significantly when compared to the 1961 figure. It may be instructive to go into the question in some detail.

Definition of Worker in 1971 and 1961 compared

In the 1961 Census, a person was categorised as economically active even when such a person's contribution to the work was ever so marginal. For example, if a person in a seasonal work like agriculture put in only an hour's work a day during a major part of the working season, such a person was treated as economically active. In the light of such a liberal approach, a woman normally doing household chores but attending to her husband's cultivation casually or tending cattle for an hour or so, or a full-time student

who sat in his father's shop even on a single day in a fortnight were treated as workers. Their basic characteristic as a whole-time housewife or a student was ignored. In 1971 the definition of a worker became less flexible and did not admit any one into that category unless he devoted the major part of his time to his 'work'. Now let us study the definition as adopted in 1971.

A 'worker' is defined in **1971 Census** as a person "whose main activity is participation in any economically productive work by his physical or mental activity. Work involves not only actual work but effective supervision and direction of work."

Every individual was asked what his main activity was; that is, how he engaged himself mostly. For the purpose of this question, all persons were invariably classified into two broad streams of main activity, viz., as (i) workers or (ii) non-workers, according to the main activity returned by each person.

Mark the words "engaged himself mostly." The criterion which determined the main activity of an individual was how he engaged

himself mostly or in what manner he spent the major portion of his time. Take the case of a woman engaged primarily in household duties, such as cooking for her own family. Even if she stitched garments in her spare time for sale, she was treated in 1971 Census as a non-worker for her main activity, because her full-time job was that of a housewife. Similarly a student who spent a major portion of his time attending his school or college and earned some money by hawking newspapers for a short while in the evening was treated at this census as a non-worker for the main activity. The marginal contribution to the family income made by such persons was to be treated as secondary work.

To take another example of a different type : a clerk works for the whole day in his office, but attends college at night for his Bachelor's degree. How do you think would he be classified ? He is a worker basically and was treated as such for his main activity.

Those who returned their main activity as housewives, students, retired persons, etc., though earning some money in their leisure time, were recorded in 1971 as non-workers. These same persons would have been classified

as 'workers' in 1961. You will now be in a position to appreciate why the proportion of workers in our state in 1961 was as high as 43.66 per cent while according to the 1971 figures, it is lower at 31.22 per cent.

The wide difference in the work participation rates between 1971 and 1961 censuses should not therefore incline us to the inference that the number of persons who were previously working are now deprived of their work, or that the number of the unemployed has suddenly shot up. As already explained, the persons who reported their main activity as housewives, students, etc., at 1971 Census have not been treated as workers. If the female participation rate has shown a big decline between 1961 and 1971, this could largely be due to the definitional change. The housewives, as we have seen, were treated as economically active workers on the basis of some very marginal contribution of work at the 1961 Census, while in the present census they have been treated as housewives under the non-worker category. If such persons had also indicated their marginal participation in any economic activity as secondary work this will be available later after full processing of census schedules. For the present, we may

confine ourselves to the main activity the data on which have been compiled and presented in this chapter.

Division of Workers into Nine Categories

In 1971 Census, those who returned their main activity as workers were divided into nine categories according to the type of work they did. There was provision in the Individual slip to record the nature of work, place of work, the name of establishment, nature of industry, trade or profession and a brief description of work and class of workers, so that further categorisation of workers could be made basing on such data. The nine categories are as follows:

Category	I	Cultivator
Category	II	Agricultural Labourer
Category	III	Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting and Plantations, Orchards and Allied activities
Category	IV	Mining and Quarrying
Category	V(a)	Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing and Repairs at Household Industry
Category	V(b)	Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing and Repairs other than Household Industry

Category VI	Construction
Category VII	Trade and Commerce
Category VIII	Transport, Storage and Communications
Category IX	Other Services

Persons who returned their main activity as non-workers were divided into seven broad categories. These are : (i) persons engaged in household duties, (ii) students, (iii) retired persons or rentiers, (iv) dependants, (v) beggars, etc., (vi) inmates of institutions, e.g., convicts in jails, persons in penal, mental or charitable institutions and (vii) other non-workers. The last category was mainly meant to record particulars of persons who were capable of work and at the time of census, were seeking work.

Proportion of Workers under Different Categories

Having understood the concept of a worker and a non-worker as adopted in 1971 Census, it would now be instructive to study the composition of the population of our state in terms of workers under different categories and non-workers. The following table which gives the distribution of working population of Orissa under different categories may be studied.

Table 9.1

Category of workers		Number of workers	Percentage to total workers
1		2	3
Total Workers	..	6,850,651	100.00
Category I	..	3,368,025	49.16
Category II	..	1,937,574	28.28
Category III	..	146,923	2.14
Category IV	..	51,701	0.76
Category V(a)	..	248,610	3.63
Category V(b)	..	157,344	2.30
Category VI	..	37,801	0.55
Category VII	..	226,754	3.31
Category VIII	..	98,994	1.45
Category IX	..	576,925	8.42

The workers under all categories taken together constitute 31.22 per cent of the total population of our state and make a total of 68.51 lakhs. Let us see what these 68.51 lakh people do for a living. Nearly half of them (33.68 lakhs) work as cultivators while a little over a quarter of them (19.37 lakhs) eke out their livelihood as agricultural labourers Next

come the workers in category IX which combines different kinds of workers, not otherwise classified. Government servants, doctors, artistes, teachers, legislators and the like all come in this category. They constitute 8.42 per cent of the total workers. The workers in categories V(a) and V(b), representing the industrial sector are little over 4 lakhs which is about 5.93 per cent while trade and commerce accounts for 3.31 per cent of the total worker population. Workers in other categories are relatively very few.

Non-workers

The non-workers numbering over a crore and a half constitute an appallingly high proportion of our population, i.e., 68.78 per cent. The total income of the workers, however much they may earn, gets whittled down with such an overwhelming proportion of economically inactive persons acting as a counter-weight. Now, you would realise why the average income of a person in our state or '*per capita*' income as it is known, remains one of the lowest in the world.

So far as this vast army of non-workers is concerned, we are not yet in possession of the break up of their numbers into the seven categories, because the final tabulation of data

DIVISION OF POPULATION OF ORISSA INTO WORKERS AND NON-WORKERS, 1971

WORKERS



NON-WORKERS



(Each full figure represents 500,000 persons)

on non-workers has not yet been completed. It is therefore not possible at this stage to undertake an analysis of the non-worker population. Some of you who are interested in the unemployment problem in the state are likely to ask for the figures of the unemployed. Data on the unemployed are not strictly within the scope of the census questionnaire. 1971 Census did not ask a question on unemployment directly. But, the residuary category of non-workers, i.e., "others" is likely to give some idea of the size of the unemployed population when such figures become available. The data should be no more than a rough indication of the size of the unemployed and will have to be utilised subject to all its limitations.

Proportion of Workers and Non-workers in the Rural and Urban areas of the State

After seeing the proportion of workers and non-workers for the entire population of the state, we may now undertake a similar analysis separately for the rural areas and urban areas of the state. The following table gives a break up of the population in the rural and urban areas into workers and non-workers. A sexwise break up can also be found in it.

Table 9.2

Particulars of population	Persons/ Males/ Females	Total number			Proportion (per cent) of workers and non-workers to total population		
		Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Total Population	Persons	21,944,615	20,099,220	1,845,395	100·00	100·00	100·00
	Males	11,041,083	10,041,023	1,000,060	100·00	100·00	100·00
	Females	10,903,532	10,058,197	845,335	100·00	100·00	100·00
Total Workers	Persons	6,850,651	6,288,831	561,820	31·22	31·29	30·44
	Males	6,107,993	5,601,630	506,363	55·32	55·79	50·63
	Females	742,658	687,201	55,457	6·81	6·83	6·56
Total Non-workers	Persons	15,093,964	13,810,389	1,283,575	68·78	68·71	69·56
	Males	4,933,090	4,439,393	493,697	44·68	44·21	49·37
	Females	10,160,874	9,370,996	789,878	93·19	93·17	93·44

We find that out of the total working force of 6,850,651 persons, a very large proportion numbering 6,288,831 persons forming 91·80 per cent work in the rural areas while the urban workers make 8·20 per cent. The distribution of workers between the rural and the urban areas closely follows the rural-urban distribution of the general population.

Male and Female Workers

Sexwise, males constitute a heavy proportion numbering 5,601,630, which is about 89·07 per cent of the total working population of the rural areas. Female workers are on the low side constituting 10·93 per cent of the total rural workers. Similarly, in the urban areas the representation of male workers is very high (506,363) forming 90·13 per cent of the total urban workers. The rest numbering 55,457 (9·87 per cent) are women.

In terms of the total rural population of the state, 55·79 per cent of the male population in the rural areas are workers; the other 44·21 per cent are non-workers. Among the females, the workers in the rural areas constitute only 6·83 per cent of the total rural female population of the state. The rest of their sisters who form 93·17 per cent of the rural females are non-workers. In the urban

areas the proportion of workers is slightly less. Taking the total urban population of the state, 50.63 per cent of the males are workers while 49.37 per cent are non-workers. Out of the urban female population, the proportion of workers is 6.56 per cent and that of non-workers 93.44 per cent.

*Proportion of Workers and Non-workers
in the Districts of Orissa*

We have seen that in our state as a whole, the total workers (both sexes) constitute 31.22 per cent of the total population whereas the proportion of non-workers is as high as 68.78 per cent. Against this background, it would be instructive to examine the relative proportion of workers and non-workers broadly and between different categories of workers in the districts. See table below.

Table 9.3

State/District	Percentage of workers and non-workers to total population of State/District	
	Workers	Non-workers
1	2	3
ORISSA ..	31.22	68.78
Sambalpur ..	35.33	64.67

Table 9.3—*Concl'd.*

State/District	Percentage of workers and non-workers to total population of State/District	
	Workers	Non-workers
1	2	3
Sundargarh ..	31.45	68.55
Keonjhar ..	30.60	69.40
Mayurbhanj ..	33.35	66.65
Balasore ..	26.98	73.02
Cuttack ..	27.49	72.51
Dhenkanal ..	30.08	69.92
Baudh-Khondmals ..	35.29	64.71
Bolangir ..	33.59	66.41
Kalahandi ..	32.73	67.27
Koraput ..	35.09	64.91
Ganjam ..	32.54	67.46
Puri ..	29.07	70.93

The proportion of workers in the districts generally hovers around 30 per cent

of the total district population with, of course, a few exceptions. The districts which show the highest proportion of workers are: Sambalpur (35.33 per cent), Baudh-Khondmals (35.29 per cent) and Koraput (35.09 per cent) in that order. The districts of Bolangir, Mayurbhanj, Kalahandi, Ganjam and Sundargarh also have a proportion of workers which is higher than the state average (31.22 per cent). The proportion of workers in the remaining five districts is below the state average. Keonjhar and Dhenkanal barely manage a percentage around 30. The surprise comes from the Balasore, Cuttack and Puri districts which have the lowest proportion of workers ranging between 27 to 29 per cent.

Regarding the proportion of **non-workers in the different districts**, whatever we said of the districts in regard to working population, holds good for the non-working population in the reverse. While the state average of non-workers stands at 68.78 per cent, the district of Balasore comes first with the maximum proportion of non-workers at 73.02 per cent. Cuttack and Puri districts follow with 72.51 per cent and 70.93 per cent respectively. The lowest percentage of non-

workers is found in the districts of Sambalpur, Baudh-Khondmals and Koraput.

One is tempted to speculate whether there is not some correlation between the proportion of working population and the prosperity of an area. Or do Adibasi populations offer more working men and women than the non-Adibasi populations? We are not in a position to draw any positive inferences, but this could be a good field of research for the scholars.

Composition of Working Population in the Districts further analysed by Categories of Workers

As has been already explained, the persons who returned their main activity as economically active were divided into 9 categories. It will be worthwhile to go into the question of the relative proportion of workers and non-workers in the districts as between the different categories of workers.

See the following table which gives the categorywise distribution of the working population for the districts in 1971 Census.

Table 9.4

Percentage of workers in each category to total workers

State/ District	1	Percentage of workers in each category to total workers									
		I	II	III	IV	V(a)	V(b)	VI	VII	VIII	IX
		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
ORISSA	..	49.16	28.23	2.14	0.76	3.63	2.30	0.55	3.31	1.45	8.42
Sambalpur	..	47.26	28.31	1.61	0.63	6.09	3.76	0.52	3.04	1.67	7.11
Sundargarh	..	43.20	16.75	1.77	3.88	2.73	10.68	0.65	4.48	3.56	12.30
Keonjhar	..	53.27	22.03	1.71	7.38	2.66	1.44	0.36	2.25	1.54	7.36
Mayurbhanj	..	46.17	37.42	2.39	0.20	4.72	0.69	0.22	1.32	0.64	6.23
Balasore	..	56.46	28.06	1.11	0.16	1.60	1.45	0.35	2.46	1.46	6.89
Cuttack	..	47.92	26.44	1.88	0.15	3.56	3.15	0.50	4.71	2.00	9.69
Dhenkanal	..	51.26	27.19	3.69	1.67	3.87	1.23	0.49	1.97	0.78	7.85
Baudh-Khondmals	..	55.16	28.94	1.41	0.06	3.63	0.50	0.41	2.35	0.42	7.12
Bolangir	..	55.11	27.78	1.73	0.08	4.80	1.13	0.29	2.22	0.93	5.93
Kalahandi	..	53.57	32.09	1.36	0.01	2.82	0.93	0.32	1.82	0.55	6.53
Koraput	..	52.46	29.96	1.67	0.31	2.16	1.37	1.00	2.44	1.10	7.53
Ganjam	..	41.42	32.12	3.05	0.06	4.13	1.81	0.70	5.01	1.32	10.38
Puri	..	46.51	25.65	3.57	0.05	3.53	1.88	0.81	4.96	1.91	11.13

Category I : Cultivator

For purpose of census, a cultivator is defined as a person who is engaged in cultivation by himself or herself or by supervision or direction in his/her capacity as the owner of land, lessee or a tenant.

This category claims the largest proportion of workers in our country as well as our state. The proportion of cultivators to the state's working population is 49.16 per cent. In the districts also this proportion generally remains the same. Fluctuations are few and not very significant.

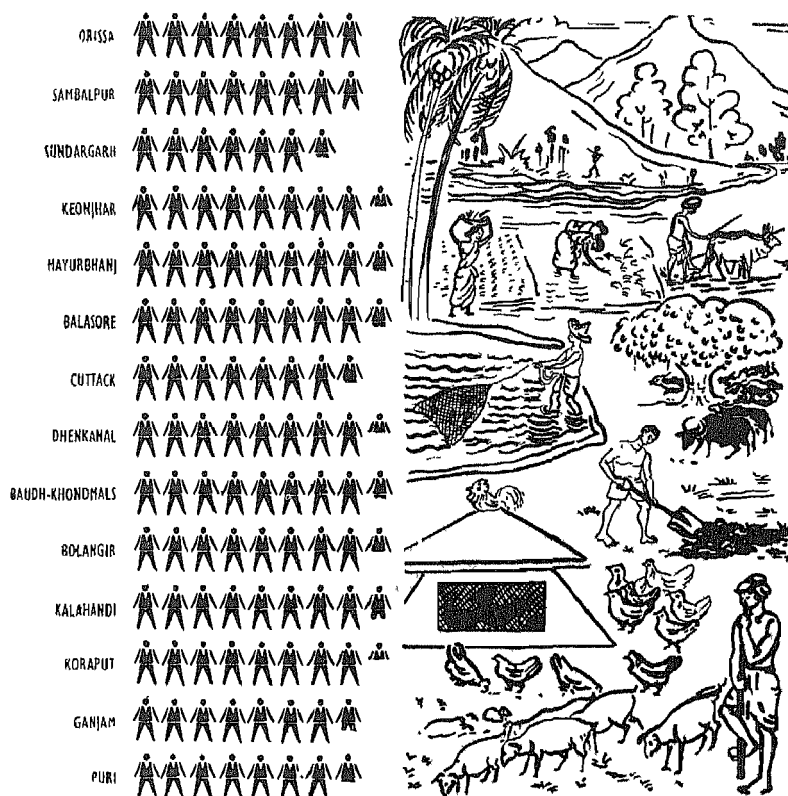
The maximum percentage of cultivators is contributed by Balasore district (56.46 per cent) followed by Baudh-Khondmals (55.16 per cent), Bolangir (55.11 per cent), Kalahandi (53.57 per cent), Keonjhar (53.27 per cent), Koraput (52.46 per cent) and Dhenkanal (51.26 per cent) districts. Cuttack (47.92 per cent) and Sambalpur (47.26 per cent) districts remain very close to the state average while Puri (46.51 per cent), Mayurbhanj (46.17 per cent), Sundargarh (43.20 per cent) and Ganjam (41.42 per cent) districts have the lowest proportion of cultivators within their jurisdictions compared to the other districts. The districts of Balasore, Baudh-Khondmals,

Bolangir and Kalahandi hardly offer any avenues of employment other than cultivation. The proportion of cultivators in these districts is consequently high. The reasons why certain districts have a low proportion of cultivators in a predominantly agricultural economy might not be uniform for all districts, because a person cannot be a cultivator by choice. Take the case of Mayurbhanj. The very low proportion of cultivators in this district could be explained by the fact that there are many landless Adibasis in this district whose main-stay is agriculture, but who do not own lands or hold any tenure status. Correspondingly, the number of agricultural labourers in this district is very high. Sundargarh district has a low proportion of cultivators because of the shift of worker population from agriculture to industry (Rourkela Steel Plant, Rajgangpur Cement Factory, etc.).

Category II : Agricultural Labourer

Next to cultivators, this category accounts for the largest number of workers in the state. The state average of the percentage of agricultural labourers to the total workers is 28.28. Mayurbhanj, Ganjam, Kalahandi, Koraput and Baudh-Khondmals have, in that order, the highest proportion of agricultural

Proportion of Workers as Cultivators, Agricultural labourers
and Workers engaged in Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting & Plantations,
Orchards and Allied Activities and in Mining and Quarrying
(Categories I, II, III & IV)



(Each full figure represents 10 per cent of workers among total workers)

labourers. The districts of Sambalpur, Balasore and Bolangir are very near the state average. Dhenkanal, Cuttack, Puri and Keonjhar have a comparatively low proportion of agricultural labourers. But the district which stands out with the lowest percentage of agricultural labourers is Sundargarh (16.75).

In our attempt to find reasons, we might be right in presuming that Mayurbhanj, Ganjam, Kalahandi, Koraput and Baudh-Khondmals are not only predominantly agricultural but also contain a high proportion of Adibasis, most of whom are landless. All these persons, in the absence of more lucrative fields of employment, cling to agriculture, even though employment is only seasonal. By the same token, landless Adibasis in the district of Sundargarh, lured by better opportunities in the industrial field, have apparently given up their calling as agricultural labourers.

Category III : Livestock, Forestry, Fishing,
Hunting and Plantations,
Orchards and Allied activities

The proportion of workers in this category to the total workers in the state is as low as

2.14 per cent. Only three districts, viz., Dhenkanal, Puri and Ganjam have a proportion of over 3 per cent while Mayurbhanj district has a proportion of 2.39 per cent. All the other districts have a proportion below 2 per cent.

Dhenkanal heads the list, because plucking of 'kendu' leaves is an important occupation with the landless labourers in this district. Puri and Ganjam districts stand second and third possibly because of the Chilka lake which provides employment to a great number of fishermen.

Category IV : Mining and Quarrying

This is a sector which accounts for a very negligible proportion of the workers. In fact employment in this sector can be provided only by districts which have been blessed by nature with mines. That is why the districts of Keonjhar (7.38 per cent) and Sundargarh (3.88 per cent) have the highest proportion of workers in this category. Thanks to Talcher coal mines, Dhenkanal comes a distant third with (1.67 per cent). The proportion of the workers in this category is so low in the remaining districts that any comparison between them is bound to be a fruitless exercise.

**Category V(a) : Manufacturing, Processing,
Servicing and Repairs at
Household Industry**

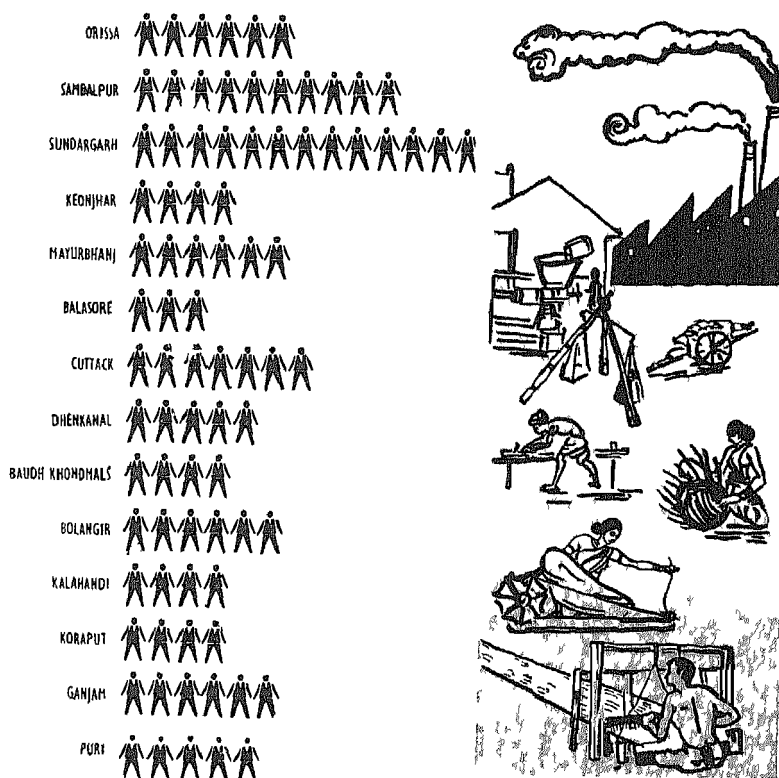
The proportion of this category of workers to the total number of workers of the state is 3.63 per cent. There is very slight variation in the district figures. The highest proportion is claimed by Sambalpur district (6.09 per cent). This district has a large number of handloom weavers. Their number seems to have contributed to this high figure. Next comes Bolangir district with a proportion of 4.80 per cent. In this district too, there is a predominance of handloom weavers. Also certain parts of this district abound in bell-metal workers. In Mayurbhanj (4.72 per cent), which comes third, a section of the *Santals* specialise in weaving ropes from a certain type of grass. Their number is responsible for bringing this district to a relatively high position. Ganjam which comes fourth (4.13 per cent) also abounds in handloom weavers, bell-metal workers and horn workers. The proportion of Dhenkanal, Baudh-Khondmals, Cuttack and Puri districts hovers around the state average. Balasore district (1.60 per cent) reveals considerable deficiency of workers under household industry.

**Category V (b) : Manufacturing, Processing,
Servicing and Repairs other than
Household Industry**

The workers under this category which represents the main industrial activity form a very low proportion (2·30 per cent) of the total workers in the state. In the advanced countries, the workers in the industrial sector comprise a significant proportion of the total workers, but since our state is predominantly agricultural in its economy, industry has not been able to absorb workers from the agricultural sector to any appreciable extent so far. The district of Sundargarh leads the other districts in this respect contributing 10·68 per cent of its total workers under this category. Sambalpur district with 3·76 per cent and Cuttack district with 3·15 per cent are the only other 2 districts whose proportion of workers under this category is of any consequence. All the remaining districts have less than 2 per cent each, the districts of Baudh-Khondmals (0·50 per cent), Mayurbhanj (0·69 per cent) and Kalahandi (0·93 per cent) showing themselves up as particularly backward.

It is important to note that the workers under the preceding category (household

**(Proportion of Workers in Manufacturing, Processing, Servicing and
Repairs at Household Industry and other than Household Industry
(Category V)**



(Each full figure represents 1 per cent of workers among total workers)

industry) together with those under this category represent the total working force in the industrial sector. The overall proportion of such workers under categories V (a) and V (b) in our state to the total number of workers comes to 5.93 per cent. Even this proportion would not have been possible but for the preponderance of the traditional household industry throughout the state.

Category VI : Construction

The contribution of construction workers to the total working population in the state is very nominal (0.55 per cent). Generally the proportion of workers in this category is bound to vary from district to district and from time to time because construction is not a permanent or lasting activity like cultivation or industrial production. This is why Koraput district in which a number of industries and large irrigation projects are coming up, has the highest proportion at 1 per cent. When the projects are completed and workers disbanded, the proportion might naturally come down. Next come Puri, Ganjam and Sundargarh districts in that order. The proportion of workers in these districts as well as

the remaining districts is so low that the degree of variation is hardly worth examining.

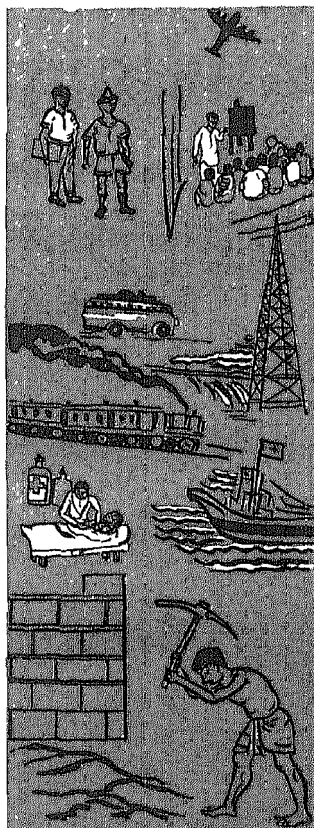
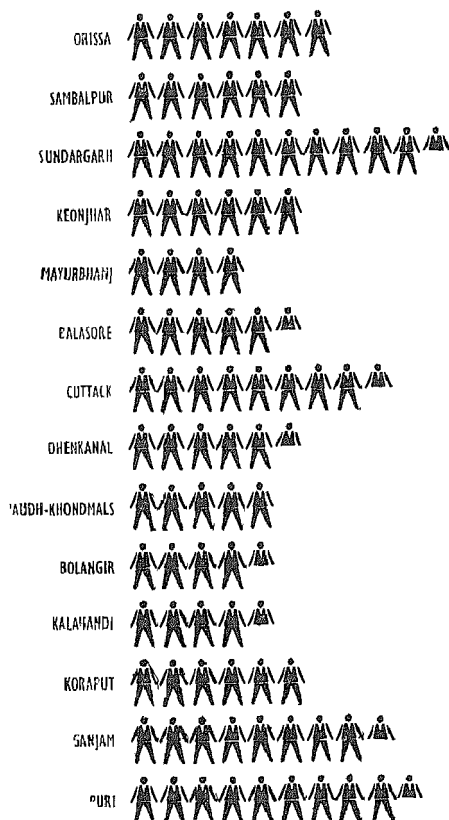
Category VII : Trade and Commerce

'Trade and Commerce' is one of the largest sectors of our economy. Even so, the proportion of workers in this sector is as low as 3.31 per cent in our state. The district of Ganjam tops the list with a proportion of 5.01 per cent. Puri (4.96 per cent), Cuttack (4.71 per cent) and Sundargarh (4.48 per cent) follow in that order. Trade and commerce in the first three districts is relatively more pronounced as these districts are generally more advanced. In Sundargarh district which till recently was among the more backward districts of the state, trade and commerce developed fast as a result of the consumer needs of the industrial towns of Rourkela, Rajgangpur, Birmitrapur, etc. The most backward districts in this sector are Mayurbhanj, Kalahandi and Dhenkanal.

Category VIII : Transport, Storage and Communications

An area which is economically advanced, be it in the agricultural or industrial sector or both, gives increased scope to large scale storage of goods and food-stuffs and the transport of men and materials. Sundargarh

**Proportion of Workers in Construction, Trade and Commerce,
Transport, Storage and Communications and Other Services**
(Categories VI, VII, VIII & IX)



(Each full figure represents 2 per cent of workers among total workers)

district with its predominantly industrial background tops the list with a proportion of 3·56 per cent of workers in this sector. Cuttack, Puri and Sambalpur districts come next in that order. While Cuttack and Sambalpur districts are relatively prosperous giving rise to intensified transport, communication and storage, the high position of Puri district is perhaps due to the fact that its headquarters station is a famous pilgrim centre. In this category also, Baudh-Khondmals, Kalahandi and Mayurbhanj districts remain the most backward.

Category IX : Other Services

This is a miscellaneous category covering people doing different kinds of work not falling in any of the preceding categories. As we have seen, white-collar workers like doctors, government officials, teachers, musicians and social workers as well as those working in personal services like domestic servants, barbers, *dhobies*, etc., come under this category. That is why the proportion of workers in this category is relatively high, the state average being 8·42 per cent. In this category also, the pride of place goes to Sundargarh, which has a proportion of 12·30 per cent. This again is

due to mainly the Rourkela steel plant. Puri district comes second with 11.13 per cent. The presence of Bhubaneswar, the capital city of the state in this district explains the high percentage. Ganjam and Cuttack, two prosperous districts come next. They are followed by Dhenkanal district (7.85 per cent). The high proportion of workers in this category in Dhenkanal might be explained by the fact that Angul town has a number of professional institutions like police training college, forest training school and teachers' training college which give training to a large number of government servants. Bolangir district with 5.93 per cent, Mayurbhanj district with 6.23 per cent and Kalahandi district with 6.53 per cent come last.

We should now be in a position to attempt some broad conclusions on the basis of what we have studied in the foregoing paragraphs. Firstly, dividing the entire working population into two parts, agricultural and non-agricultural, we find that the former category claims as high a proportion as 79.58 per cent (combining categories I, II and III). The non-agricultural workers in the entire state account for only 20.42 per

cent of the working population. In the non-agricultural part are included those persons working not only in the industrial sector but also under mining and quarrying, construction, trade, commerce, transport and other services. In this non-agricultural category, the largest contribution (8.42 per cent of the total workers) comes from 'other services' while the industrial component, as we have seen earlier, contributes 5.93 per cent of the total workers. Those working in trade and commerce account for 3.31 per cent of the total workers while the proportion of those working in the rest of the non-agricultural categories is insignificant.

Pattern of Main Activity of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Orissa

Let us now turn our attention to the less developed sections of our population, viz., the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes and see how their main activity compares with that of the general population.

Study the following table which gives the distribution of population of scheduled tribes and scheduled castes of our state under workers and non-workers.

Table 9.5

Nature of population	Total population	Workers (per cent)	Non-workers (per cent)
1	2	3	4
Scheduled Tribes	5,071,937	34.84	65.16
Scheduled Castes	3,310,854	33.55	66.45
General Population	21,944,615	31.22	68.78

The figures do not reveal any significant variation in the proportion of the working population among scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. However, their percentage of workers remains higher than that of the general population. Among the scheduled tribes, 34.84 per cent are workers while among the scheduled castes the proportion of workers is 33.55 per cent. The non-workers form a high proportion, but it is distinctly less compared to the general population.

What Work the Scheduled Tribe Workers do

We notice some interesting features in the occupational distribution among the scheduled tribes and scheduled castes. Let

us take scheduled tribes first. Out of the total scheduled tribe population of 5,071,937 in our state, 1,767,142 or 34·84 per cent are workers. While the proportion of economically active population among the scheduled tribes is higher than that under the general population, the backward economy in which they live does not offer them much scope for pursuing diverse activities. The following table which gives the distribution of scheduled tribe workers of Orissa into different categories may be studied.

Table 9.6

Category of workers	No. of scheduled tribe workers	Per- centage to total scheduled tribe workers
1	2	3
Total Workers ..	1,767,142	100·00
I. As Cultivators ..	925,564	52·38
II As Agricultural labourers ..	648,976	36·72
III In Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Plantations, etc.	32,979	1·87
IV. In Mining and Quarrying ..	23,375	1·32

Table 9.6—*Concl'd.*

Category of workers	No. of scheduled tribe workers	Per- centage to total scheduled tribe workers
1	2	3
V. In Manufacturing, Proces- sing, Servicing and Re- pairs :		
(a) Household Industry ..	20,899	1.18
(b) Other than Household Industry ..	21,539	1.22
VI. In Construction ..	4,227	0.24
VII. In Trade and Commerce..	10,251	0.58
VIII. In Transport, Storage & Communications .	11,835	0.67
IX. In Other Services ..	67,497	3.82

It would be noticed that as high a propor-
tion as 52.38 per cent of the workers are
cultivators while an additional 36.72 per cent
of the workers are agricultural labourers.
This brings the total workers dependent on
agriculture and allied pursuits to 89.10
per cent. Those who are engaged in

category III, viz., livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting, etc., the most primitive of occupations of man, however, account for a low 1·87 per cent of the scheduled tribe workers. Thus a very high proportion of 90·97 per cent or 9 out of every 10 scheduled tribe workers are connected with agriculture and allied occupations as well as fishing, forestry, hunting, etc. The representation of scheduled tribe workers in the remaining six categories at 9·03 per cent can be said to be hardly better than nominal. If a sizeable proportion of the Adibasi workers are still not pursuing the age-old occupation of hunting, rearing of livestock and activities connected with forests and as high a proportion as 52·38 per cent of the scheduled tribe workers are cultivators, the credit would perhaps redound to the efforts of the government in giving the scheduled tribes more and more agricultural lands over the past two decades.

What Work the Scheduled Caste Workers do

The picture presented by the scheduled caste population is somewhat different. Out of the total scheduled caste population of 3,310,854 in this state, 1,110,632 persons or 33·55 per cent are economically active. This

proportion, as we have seen, is slightly less than the proportion of workers among scheduled tribes. The following table which gives the distribution of scheduled caste workers of Orissa into different categories may be studied.

Table 9.7

Category of workers	No. of scheduled caste workers	Per- centage to total scheduled caste workers
1	2	3
Total Workers ..	1,110,632	100.00
I. As Cultivators ..	304,910	27.45
II. As Agricultural labourers ..	546,525	49.21
III. In Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Plantations, etc.	27,732	2.50
IV. In Mining and Quarrying ..	7,821	0.70
V. In Manufacturing, Proces- sing, Servicing and Re- pairs:		
(a) Household Industry ..	59,567	5.36
(b) Other than House- hold Industry ..	17,032	1.53
VI. In Constructron ..	5,608	0.51
VII. In Trade and Commerce ..	18,044	1.63
VIII. In Transport, Storage and Communications ..	17,388	1.57
IX. In Other Services ..	106,005	9.54

One significant aspect that is noticed from the above table is the low proportion of cultivators (27.45 per cent) among the scheduled caste workers as compared to that among the scheduled tribe workers. Nearly one half of the scheduled caste workers (49.21 per cent) are agricultural labourers. Other Services (category IX) and Household Industry (category V.a) are the other two important spheres in which a fair proportion of the scheduled caste population works. Those engaged in other services mostly perform jobs like *dhobies*, sweepers, etc. Those classified under Household Industry are mostly engaged in work like basket-weaving, hide collection, currying and tanning, etc. A section of the handloom weavers in western Orissa also belongs to scheduled castes (*Pan tanti*). The representation of the scheduled caste workers in the other categories, though marginal, is higher than that of scheduled tribe workers (except in the case of mining and quarrying).

Compared to the scheduled tribes, the scheduled caste workers appear to be less agricultural and more evenly distributed among the non-agricultural categories.

SUMMING UP

OUR PRESENT population of about 22 million is spread over a land area of 1·56 lakh square kilometres and lives in about 47,000 villages and 81 towns. Our state has 4·75 per cent of the total land area of the country and accounts for 4 per cent of India's population. Among the states, Orissa ranks tenth in land area, eleventh in population and thirteenth in density. The average density of population which was 113 persons per sq. km. in 1961 has gone up to 141 in 1971 as compared to the all-India figure of 178. You

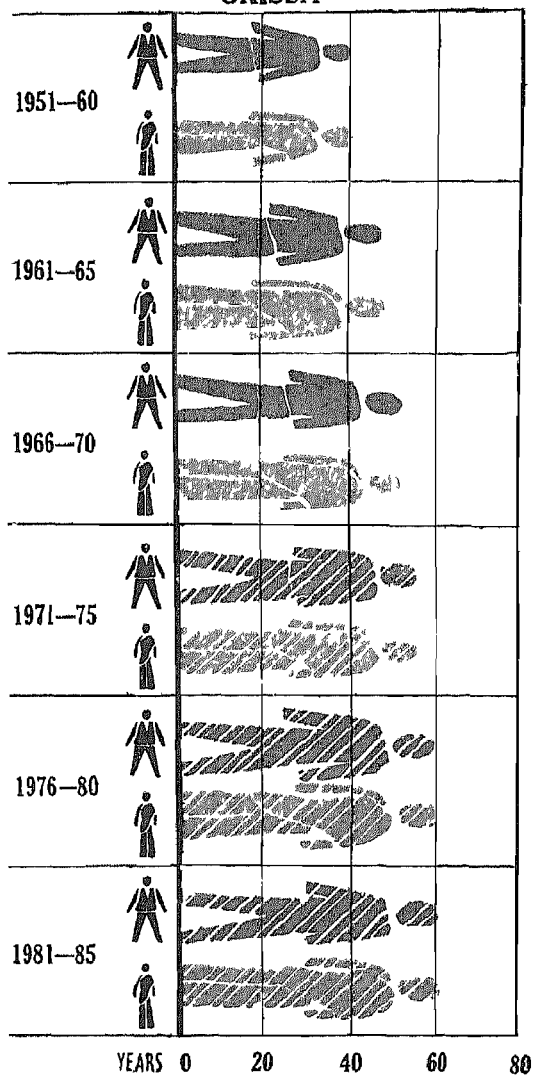
might note that, as it is, the density of population of India is nearly twice that of Europe excluding the Soviet Union and more than eight times that of the United States of America.

The population of our state is over 90 per cent rural. The pace of urbanisation is too slow. Twenty years ago the urban population was 4.06 per cent of the total population. In 1971 it has come up to 8.41 per cent making an addition of 1,251,325 persons. Nearly 30 per cent of our urban population reside in the four cities, viz., Cuttack, Bhubaneswar, Berhampur and Rourkela and 27 per cent or about 5 lakh persons live in other municipal towns having a population of 20,000 and more each. The rest are distributed in smaller urban units

The number of females per thousand males has been gradually going down all over India. Till 1961 Orissa had maintained a favourable sex ratio with 1,001 females (1961) per thousand males, but in 1971 it has gone down to 988. Even so, it maintains its high ranking, second only to Kerala. The all-India sex ratio has dropped from 941 in 1961 to 930 in 1971.

Since 1951 the population of our state has been growing at a fast rate, the growth rate during the last decade being the highest experienced so far. The net annual increase in

EXPECTATION OF LIFE AT BIRTH, ORISSA



population is now 4.36 lakhs against the corresponding all-India figure of 10.80 million. The annual geometric growth rate at 2.24 per cent which is slightly higher than the all-India rate is already too high and if this rate of growth continues unabated, it is likely that Orissa will double its population by the turn of the century. By the same token, India, it has been estimated by some experts, may cross the one billion mark by 2000 A.D. unless the fertility is brought down in the meanwhile.

As we have seen in earlier chapters, this abnormally high growth rate is the result of a rapidly declining death rate with a near-stationary birth rate. During the last 20 years there has been a sharp fall in the death rate of our state. From 22.9 in 1951 it dropped to 18 in 1961 and the current rate according to sample registration is 16.4. The infant mortality rate in the country has decreased from 183 in the forties to 139 today. Simultaneously the average life span has gone up from 32 to 50 years. In contrast, there is hardly any change in the birth rate. It hovers around 40 per 1,000 population.

The continuing high birth rate has resulted in the type of age structure of our population which has a very wide base and a tapering

top. 42.35 per cent of our population is in the younger age group and 6.02 per cent in the 60+ ages. Together they make 48.37 per cent which is a liability on the shoulders of our working age population who constitute 51.61 per cent of the total population. The dependency ratio works out to about one whereas in advanced countries it is around 0.7. Another consequence of high birth rate is that larger number of persons continuously enter the working ages swelling the number of the unemployed.

In the field of literacy, excluding children under 5, the percentage has improved from 25.24 in 1961 to about 30 in 1971. Female literacy has done even better—from 10.12 per cent in 1961 it is now 16.28 per cent, making a net addition of 758,352 female literates during the last 10 years. All the same, the fact remains that 70 per cent of our population is still illiterate, female illiteracy being as high as 83.72 per cent of the female population. Literacy among the children in school-going age has gone up from 26.31 per cent in 1961 to 30.25 per cent in 1971, so also adult literacy, from 24.82 per cent to 30.17 per cent now. We are long way short of fulfilling the mandate of the Constitution for universal and free education of all children up to 14 years.

About 31 per cent of our population are workers, the rest—over two-thirds are non-workers : they have no economic activity as their main occupation. By their main occupation they are housewives, students, rentiers, dependants, beggars, jobseekers, etc. The workers among males are 55·32 per cent and among females 6·81 per cent. The proportion of persons engaged in agricultural occupations (viz., as cultivators, agricultural labourers and those engaged in forestry, fishing, livestock, etc.) is 24·85 per cent of the total population, while that of all other workers engaged in non-agricultural activities is as low as 6·37 per cent of the population. Industries including household industries claim a mere 1·85 per cent of our population.

The weaker sections in Orissa make over 38 per cent of her population, the scheduled tribes by themselves accounting for 23·11 per cent. Ameliorating their condition so as to bring the standard of their living on par at least with that of the general population is a responsibility specifically cast on the state by the Constitution. While our planners and administrators have been striving their utmost towards this objective, much remains yet to be done.

These are some of the basic facts revealed by 1971 Census. The gravest problem confronting our country is fast rising population. The rapid growth rate with higher dependency ratio, rising unemployment and a low level of literacy are the main impediments to our progress. Providing food, clothing, houses, schools, hospitals, drinking water, sanitation, etc., to meet the requirements of the swelling numbers poses a serious challenge to our economy. They impose a strong constraint on the social and economic well-being and in effect, on our standard of living and happiness.

The first charge on the nation is to contain this spiralling growth of population. Mortality rate has, as you have seen, been brought under control and a population policy through family planning measures has been launched in a big way all over the country. While it is too early to expect a visible dent in the growth rate, a decline by two points in the birth rate during the period 1966-71 is claimed to be a possibility. Basing on certain plausible trends in fertility, the experts have made certain projections according to which the annual growth rate of our state may drop to 1.80 per cent during 1976-80.

A massive programme of planned development has been launched with the objective of bringing about an improvement in the standard of living of the people, their education, health, industrial and agricultural output and many other aspects. In this great march of the nation census plays a key role as the national stock-taker and a reckoner of the progress made, promises fulfilled and ambitions unrealised.

Our national policy is based on social and economic justice. It is aimed towards securing equitable distribution of ownership and control of the material resources of the community and providing equal opportunities to all irrespective of sex, religion, caste or community. Our governments are committed towards achieving a life of dignity and hope for every individual.

Some of us and many of our children will live to a time when poverty will not be as widespread and troublesome as now. The future will be exciting despite the many problems that loom in the horizon—perhaps because of them.

Census Questionnaire as adopted in the
Individual Slip, 1971 Census

(*Vide page 4, para. 1*)

1. Name
2. Relationship to head
3. Sex
4. Age
5. Marital status
6. For currently married women only
 - (a) Age at marriage
 - (b) Any child born in the last one year
7. Birth place
 - (a) Place of birth
 - (b) Rural/Urban
 - (c) District
 - (d) State/Country
8. Last Residence
 - (a) Place of last residence
 - (b) Rural/Urban
 - (c) District
 - (d) State/Country
9. Duration of Residence at the village or town of Enumeration
10. Religion

11. Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe
12. Literacy
13. Educational level
14. Mother Tongue
15. Other languages
16. Main activity
 - (a) Broad category
 - (i) Worker
 - (ii) Non-worker
 - (b) Place of work
(Name of village/town)
 - (c) Name of Establishment
 - (d) Nature of Industry, Trade, Profession or Service
 - (e) Description of work
 - (f) Class of worker
17. Secondary work
 - (a) Broad Category
 - (b) Place of work
(Name of village/town)
 - (c) Name of Establishment
 - (d) Nature of Industry, Trade, Profession or Service
 - (e) Description of work
 - (f) Class of worker

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- PART I ... General Report on the Census, subdivided into three sub-parts, viz.,
 - Part I-A ... First part of the General Report covering distribution, growth and density of population, sex ratio, Rural and Urban differentials, broad literacy rates, population of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, Broad economic categories, etc.
 - Part I-B ... The second part covering detailed analysis of the demographic, social, cultural and migration patterns
 - Part I-C ... Subsidiary Tables
- PART II ... Census Tables on Population subdivided into :
 - Part II-A ... General Population Tables
 - Part II-B ... Economic Tables
 - Part II-C(i)... Tables showing distribution of population by Mother-tongue and Religion, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes
 - Part II-C(ii)... Other Social and Cultural Tables and Fertility Tables
 - Part II-D ... Migration Tables
- PART III ... Establishment Report and Tables
- PART IV ... Housing Report and Tables
- PART V ... Special Tables and Ethnographic notes on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (All India Publication)

- PART VI ... Town Directory, Survey Reports on
Towns and Villages, subdivided into :
- Part VI-A ... Town Directory
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- PART VIII ... Administration Report (for official use
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- Part VIII-A... Administration Report—Enumeration
- Part VIII-B... Administration Report—Tabulation
- PART IX ... Census Atlas and Administrative Atlas
- PART X ... District Census Handbook (a State
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into :
- Part X-A ... Town and Village Directory
- Part X-B ... Town and Villagewise Primary Census
Abstract
- Part X-C ... Analytical Report and Administration
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A PORTRAIT OF POPULATION, ORISSA, 1971
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